

17° Meeting



**CardioLucca**  
Heart Brings Heart 2023

**Lucca, 22-24 Giugno 2023**

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**Massimo Fineschi**  
**Cardiologia Interventistica**  
**AOUS Siena**

**Appropriatezza dell'imaging per  
ottimizzare le procedure di  
interventistica coronarica**



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## Clinical use of intracoronary imaging

- Randomized controlled trials and registries consistently support procedural and long-term benefit with the use of intravascular imaging (IVI) for percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) guidance
- The benefits of intracoronary imaging depend largely on the interpretation and the operator's reaction to these findings. Imaging acquisition alone will not be sufficient to impact on outcome !

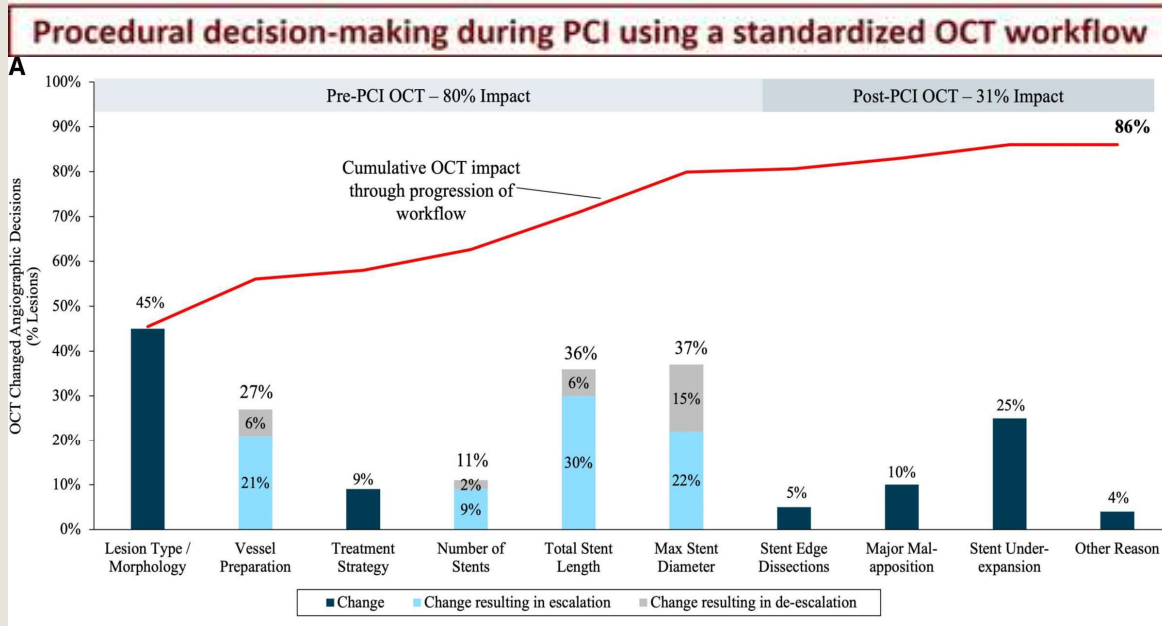


**CORONARY PHYSIOLOGIC ASSESSMENT AND IMAGINGS**

**Decision-Making During Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Guided by Optical Coherence Tomography: Insights From the LightLab Initiative**

See Editorial by [Razzouk and Attubato](#)

Brian Bergmark, MD , Luis A.P. Dallan, MD, PhD, Gabriel T.R. Pereira, MD , Julia F. Kuder, MA, Sabina A. Murphy, MPH, Jana Buccola, MS, Jason Wollmuth, MD, John Lopez, MD, Joia Spinelli, BS, Jennifer Meinen, BS, Nick E.J. West, MD , Kevin Croce, MD, PhD , and on behalf of the LightLab Initiative Investigators



16 centers in US-173 procedures-836 lesions



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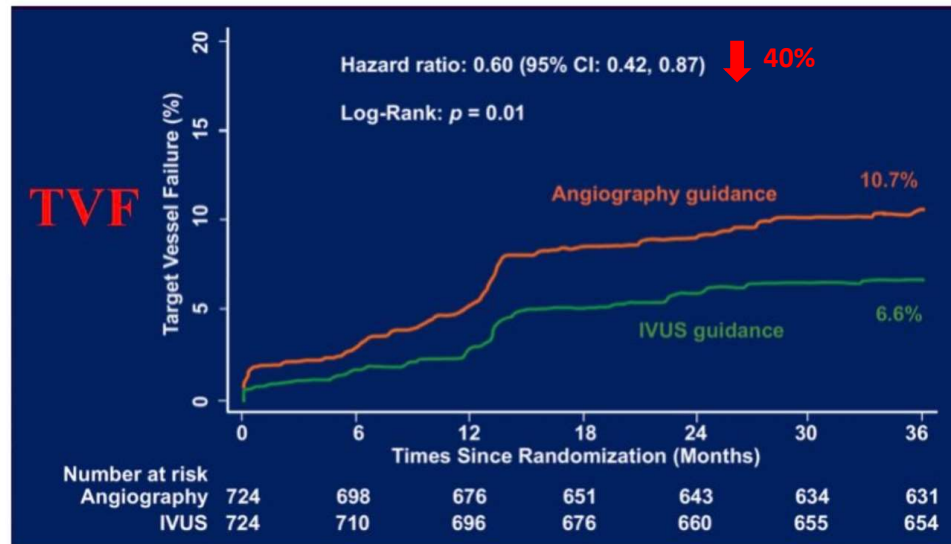


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**ULTIMATE**

## 3-year Clinical FU



# Intravascular Imaging–Guided or Angiography-Guided Complex PCI

Joo Myung Lee, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., Ki Hong Choi, M.D., Ph.D., Young Bin Song, M.D., Ph.D., Jong-Young Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Seung-Jae Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Sang Yeub Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Sang Min Kim, M.D., Ph.D., Kyeong Ho Yun, M.D., Ph.D., Jae Young Cho, M.D., Ph.D., Chan Joon Kim, M.D., Ph.D., Hyo-Suk Ahn, M.D., Ph.D., Chang-Wook Nam, M.D., Ph.D., et al., for the RENOVATE-COMPLEX-PCI Investigators\*

**Objective:** to investigate whether intravascular imaging PCI using IVUS or OCT would improve clinical outcomes compared with angiography guided PCI in patients with complex artery lesions

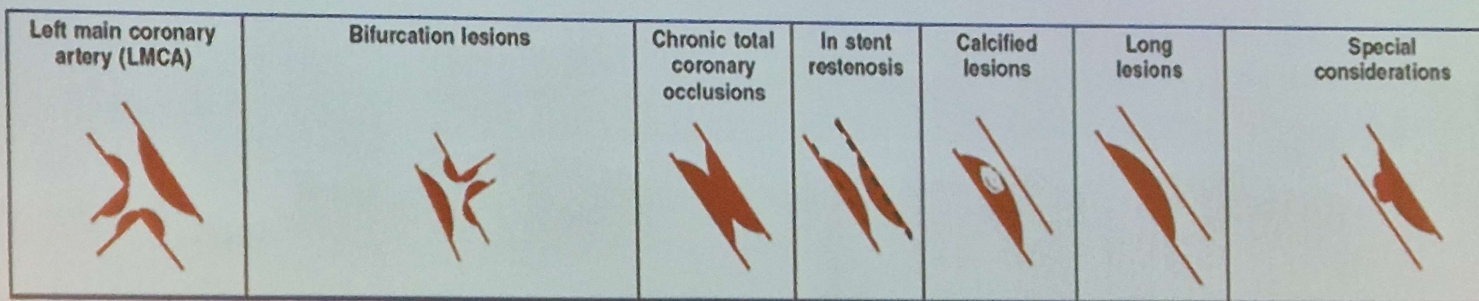
## **Primary Hypothesis**

Intravascular imaging-guided PCI would reduce TVF compared with angiography-guided PCI  
In treatment of patients with **complex coronary artery lesions**

# Study design

## RENOVATE-COMPLEX-PCI Trial (NCT03381872)

1,620 Patients with Complex Coronary Artery Lesions Undergoing PCI



Randomization (2:1) for Treatment Strategy of Target Lesions  
(Stratified by acute coronary syndrome and participating centers)

Imaging-Guided Strategy  
N = 1,080

Angiography-Guided Strategy  
N = 540

All patients were followed until 1 year after last patient enrollment.





## Study endpoints

### Primary End Point

- **Target vessel failure**

- A composite of cardiac death, target vessel-related MI, and clinically-driven target vessel revascularization.

### Secondary End Point

- Target vessel failure without procedure-related MI
- Cardiac death or target vessel-related MI
- Target vessel-related MI with or without procedure-related MI
- Non-target vessel-related MI
- Any MI with or without procedure-related MI
- Target lesion revascularization
- Target vessel revascularization
- Any revascularization (clinically-driven)
- Definite stent thrombosis
- Total amount of contrast
- Incidence of contrast-induced nephropathy
- Total procedural time
- Total medical cost (not reported in this publication)

### Definition of Clinical Events

- Spontaneous MI according to 3<sup>rd</sup> Universal Definition<sup>1</sup>
- Other clinical events according to ARC-2 criteria<sup>3</sup>
- Procedure-related MI according to SCAI Definition<sup>2</sup>



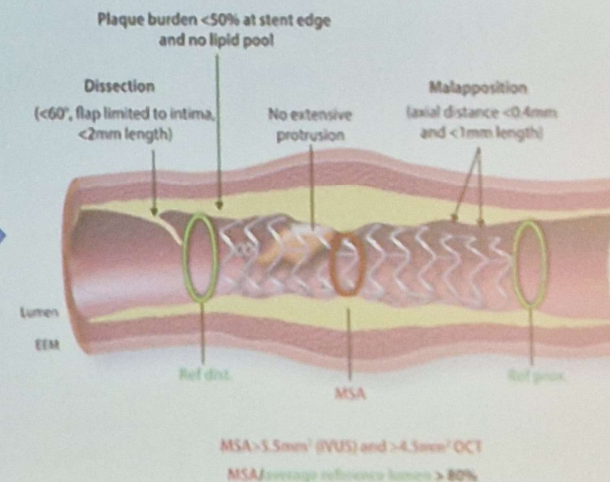
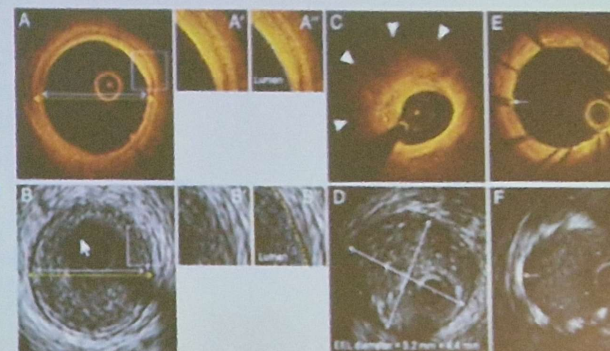
# Procedures

## Standardized Protocols of Intravascular Imaging and Optimization

	IVUS	OCT
<b>Reference Sites</b>	Largest size vessel lumen Plaque burden <50% At least 5 mm apart from target lesion	Most normal looking segment No lipid-containing plaque At least 5 mm apart from target lesion
<b>Stent Sizing</b>	By mean EEM diameter of proximal and distal reference segment	By mean EEM diameter at distal reference segment (rounded down to the nearest 0.25 mm). By mean Lumen diameter at distal reference segment (rounded up to the nearest 0.25 mm).
<b>Stent Length</b>	By measuring the distance from the distal to the proximal reference site.	
<b>Stent Optimization</b>	Visually assess that the residual angiographic diameter stenosis is <10% "AND"	
<b>Stent Expansion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-left main coronary artery lesions: MSA &gt; 80% of the average reference lumen area "OR" a MSA of &gt;5.5 mm<sup>2</sup> by IVUS and &gt;4.5 mm<sup>2</sup> by OCT.</li> <li>Left main coronary artery lesions: MSA of &gt;7 mm<sup>2</sup> for a distal left main coronary artery stenosis and &gt;8 mm<sup>2</sup> for a proximal left main coronary artery stenosis by IVUS.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stent Apposition</b>	No major malapposition (defined as an acute malapposition of ≥0.4 mm with longitudinal extension >1 mm) of the stent over its entire length against the vessel wall.	
<b>Edge Dissection</b>	No major edge dissection in the proximal or distal reference segments, defined as a location that is 5 mm from the edge of the stent, extends to the medial layer with potential to provoke flow disturbances (defined as ≥60° of the circumference of the vessel at site of dissection and/or ≥3 mm in length of the dissection flap)	
<b>Additional Procedure</b>	If any of above findings are identified, additional procedural intervention, including additional post-dilatation of the stent or additional stent implantation is recommended.	

Raber L, Mintz GS, Koskinas KC, et al. Eur Heart J 2018;39:3281-300.

ACC.23  
TOGETHER WITH  
WCC



Lee JM, Choi KH, Song YB, Hahn JY, et al. NEJM 2023



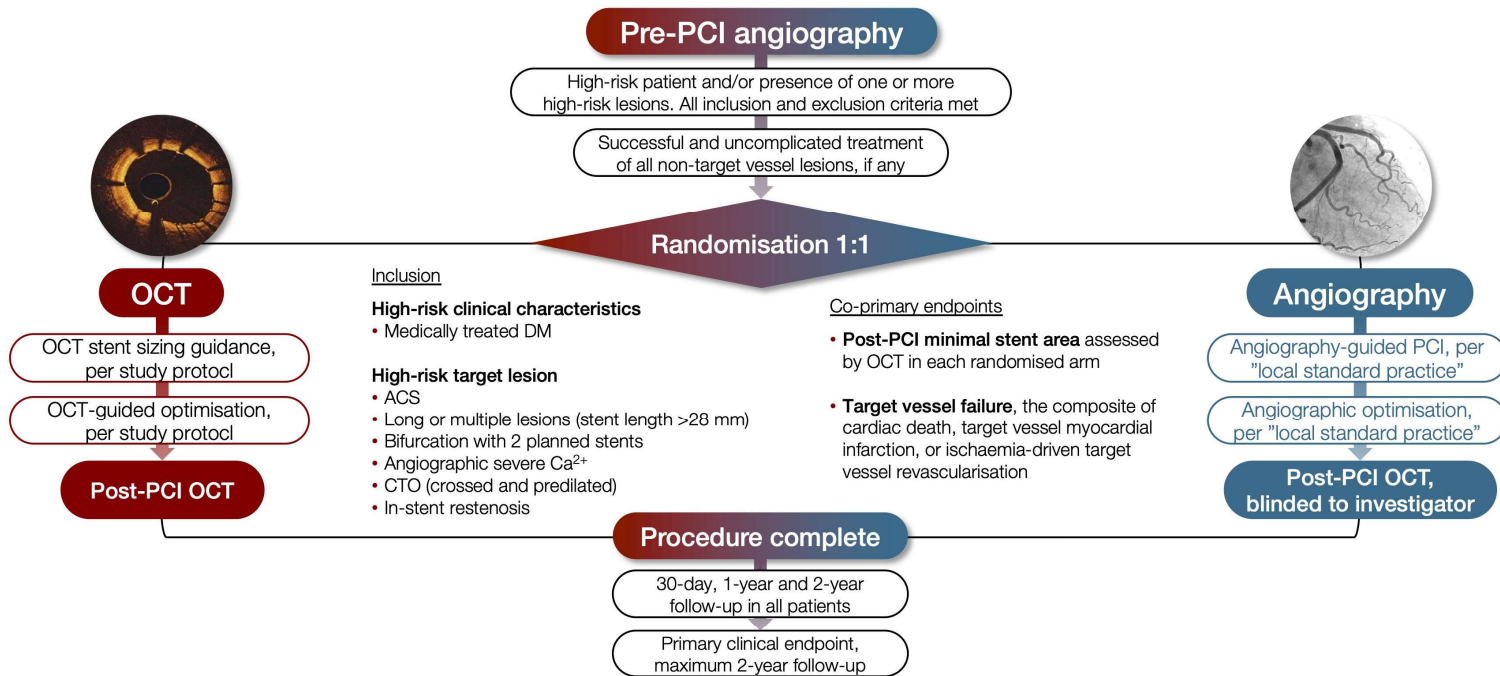


**ILUMIEN IV: HYPOTHESIS**

In high-risk patients and complex lesions, OCT-guided PCI compared to angiography-guided PCI will reduce TVF.

EuroIntervention | TOP CITED 2022 ☆☆☆

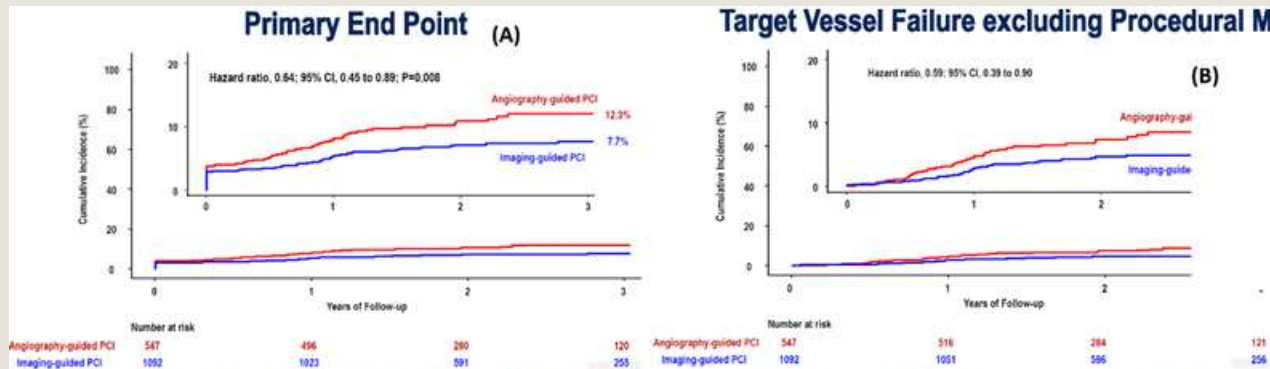
**VISUAL ILLUSTRATION. Optical Coherence Tomography-guided Coronary Stent Compared to Angiography: Design and Rationale of ILUMIEN IV: OPTIMAL PCI**



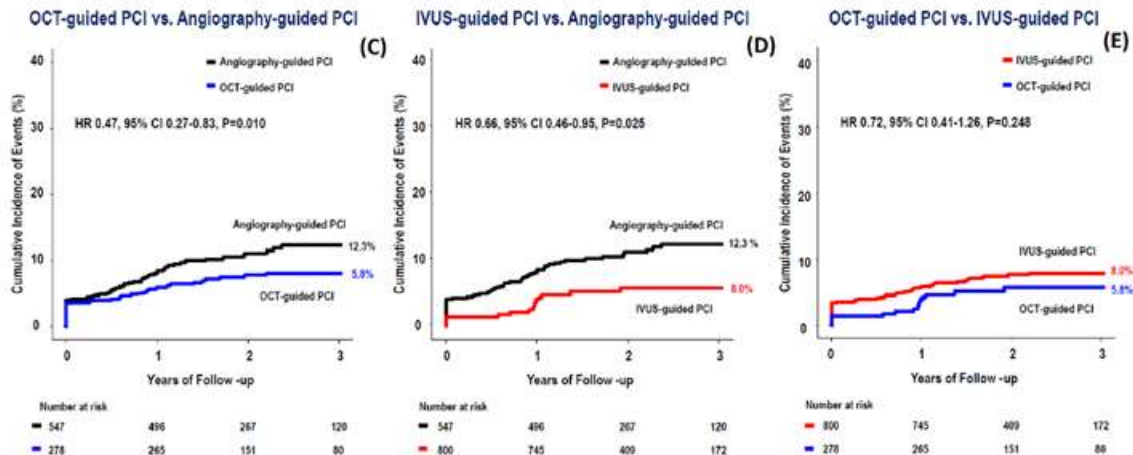
Abbreviations: ACS, acute coronary syndrome; CTO, chronic total occlusion; DM, diabetes mellitus; OCT, optical coherence tomography; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention.



Use of intravascular optical coherence tomography or intravascular ultrasound to guide stent implantation. The choice is yours!



## OCT-guided PCI vs. IVUS-guided PCI vs. Angiography-PCI





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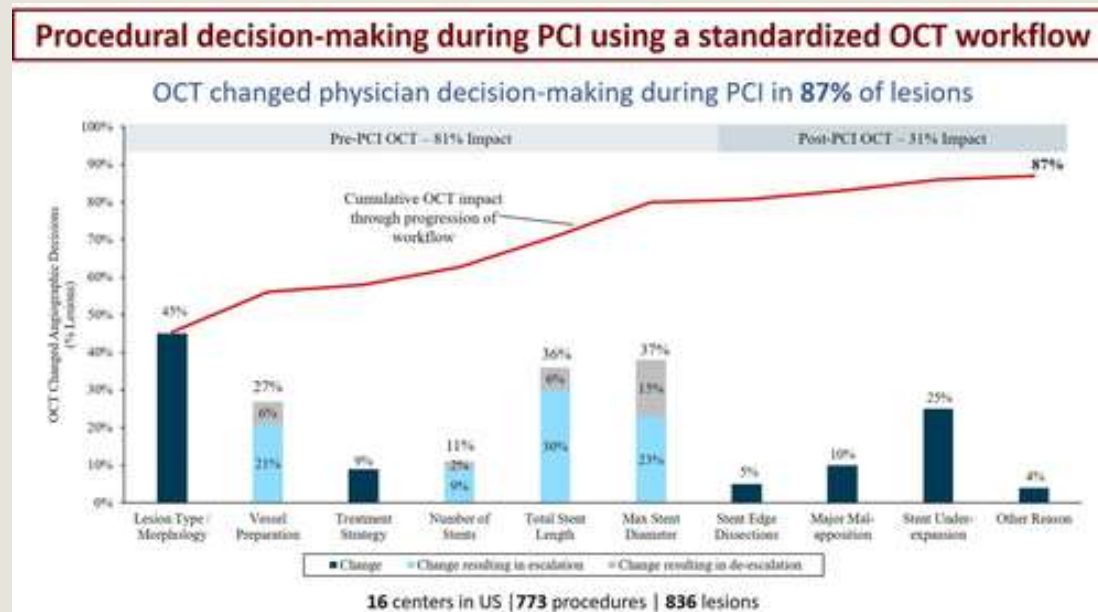
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The benefits of intracoronary imaging depend largely on the interpretation and the operator's reaction to these findings. Imaging acquisition alone will not be sufficient to impact on outcome !



Brian Bergmark. Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions. Decision-Making During Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Guided by Optical Coherence Tomography: Insights From the LightLab Initiative, Volume: 15, Issue: 11, Pages: 872-881, DOI: (10.1161/CIRCINTERVENTIONS.122.011851)



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**CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION IVUS and OCT: Similarities and Differences**

OCT				IVUS		
Very good	Good	Feasible		Feasible	Good	Very good
			<b>Pre-PCI</b>			
●	●	●	← Severity of calcium	●	●	
		●	Prediction of slow flow	●		
	●	●	Stent sizing by vessel wall →	●	●	●
●	●	●	Stent length to cover normal to normal	●	●	●
			<b>Post-PCI</b>			
●	●	●	Stent expansion	●	●	●
●	●	●	Tissue protrusion through strut	●	●	
●	●	●	Stent malapposition	●	●	
●	●	●	Stent deformation (frequently at aorto-ostium)	●	●	
●	●	●	Stent edge dissection	●	●	
●	●	●	Residual disease at stent edge	●	●	●
			<b>Follow-up</b>			
●	●	●	Old stent expansion	●	●	●
	●	●	← Tissue coverage	●		
●	●	●	Neointimal hyperplasia	●	●	●
	●	●	Stent fracture	●	●	
●	●	●	Stent malapposition	●	●	
		●	Positive remodeling of vessel wall →	●	●	●
●	●	●	Neoatherosclerosis	●	●	

Maehara, A. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol Img. 2017;10(12):1487-503.

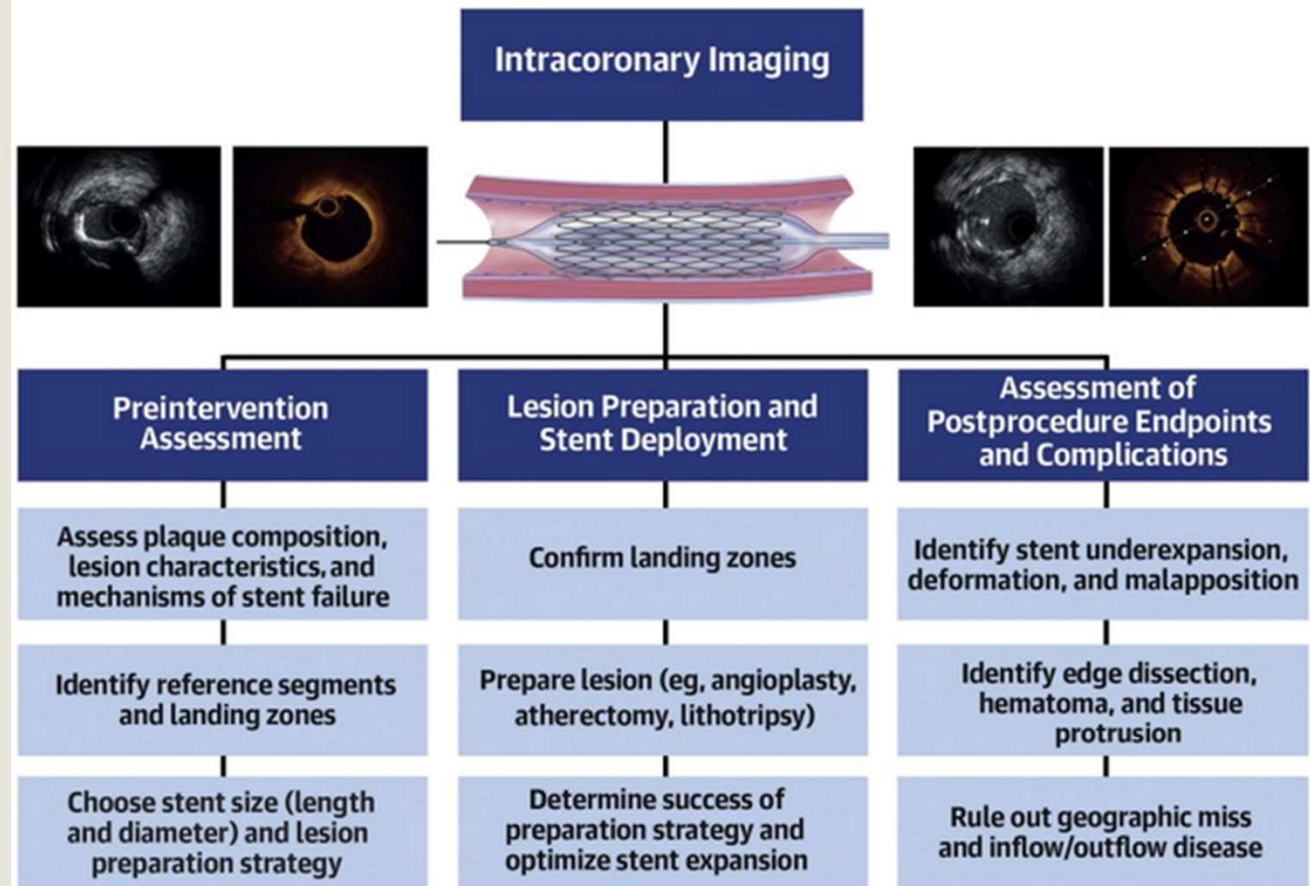


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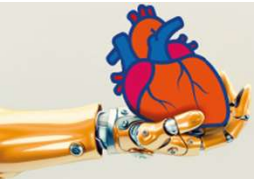
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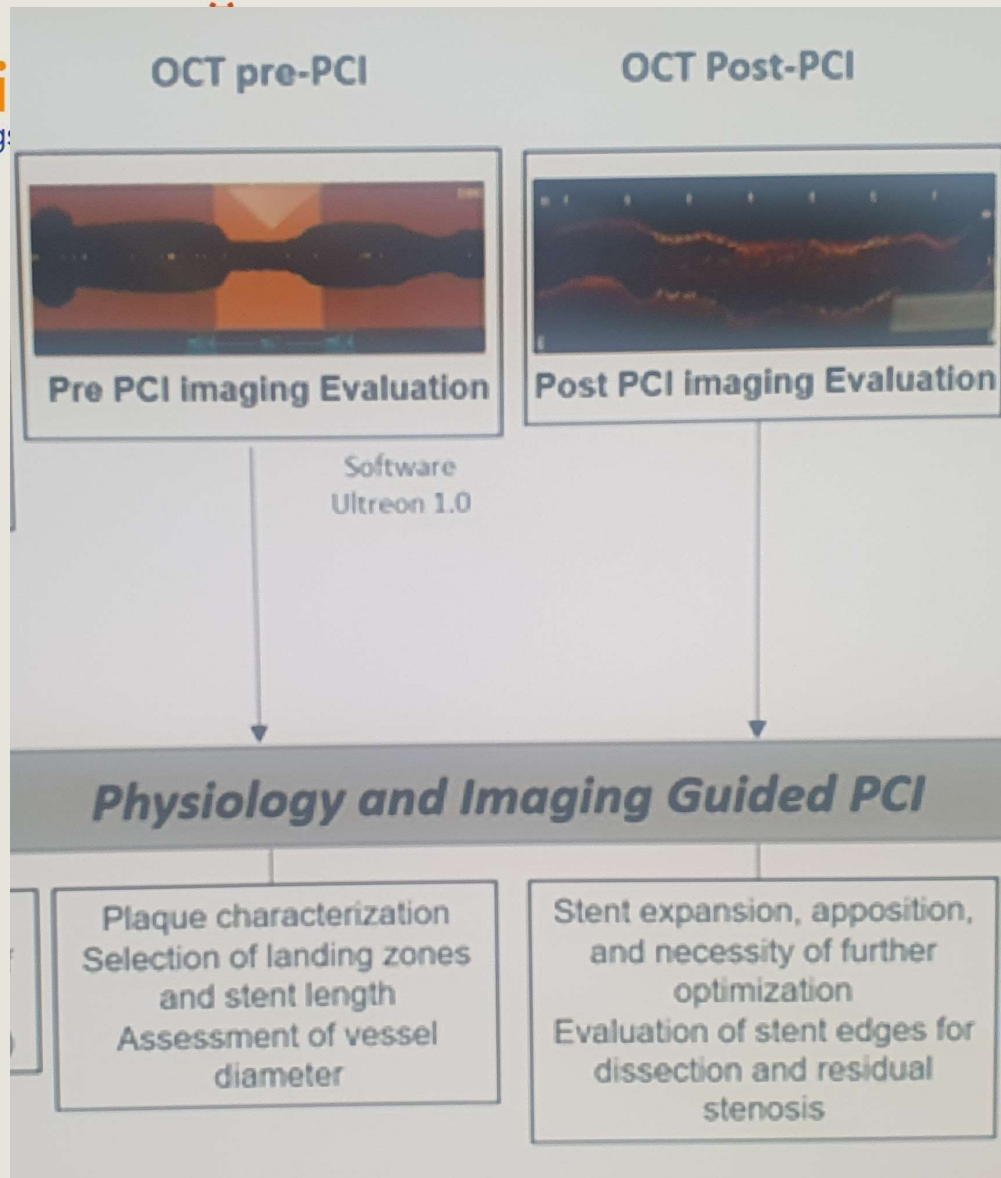
## CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Best Practice Summary for Use of Intracoronary Imaging



Truesdell AG, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2023;81(6):590-605.



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## Modern OCT Guided PCI Workflow | MLD MAX

Each OCT run serves a separate purpose. The pre-PCI run helps determine the PCI strategy, and the post-PCI run allows for optimization of the stent as needed.

Pre-PCI OCT | Strategize

MMORPHOLOGY

LLENGTH

DDIAMETER

Post-PCI OCT | Optimize

MMEDIAL DISSECTION

AAPPOSITION

EXPANSION



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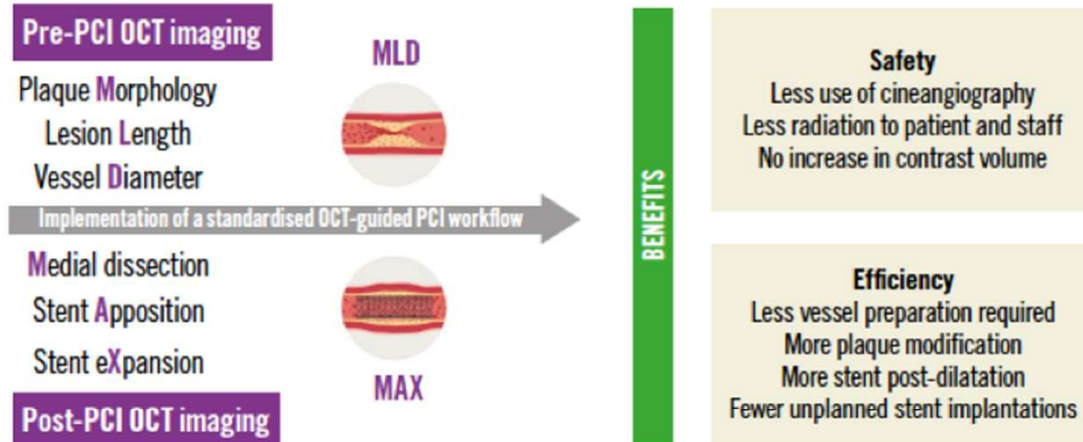


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## EuroIntervention

### CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION Impact of a standardised OCT-guided PCI workflow on procedural safety and efficacy.

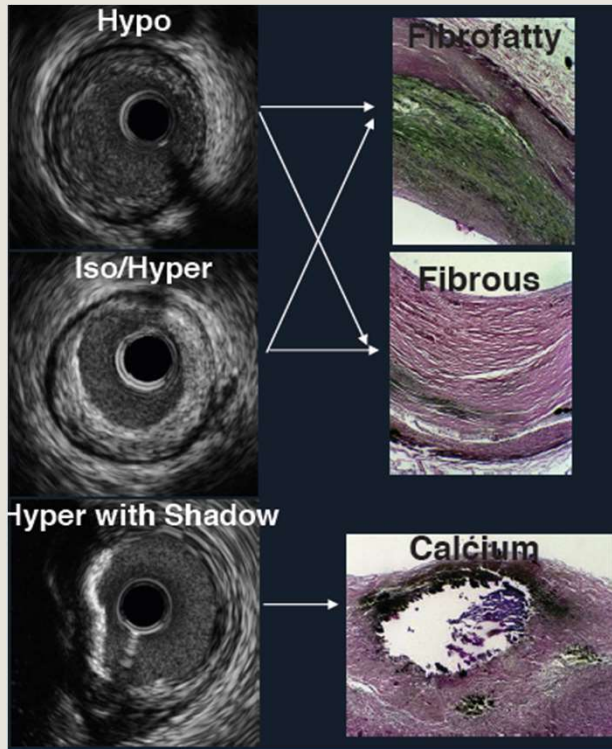


*Clinical safety and procedural efficiency benefits are evident with a standardised pre- and post-PCI OCT imaging workflow that optimises coronary stent implantation. OCT: optical coherence tomography; PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention*





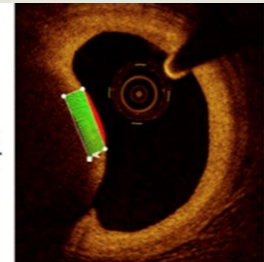
# 1. Morphology Assess Plaque Composition



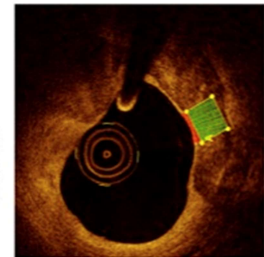
**Table 2** Image characteristics of optical coherence tomography vs. IVUS

Tissue type	Image characteristics	
	OCT	IVUS
Fibre	Homogeneous High reflectivity Low attenuation	Homogeneous High reflectivity
Calcium	Sharp edges Low reflectivity Low attenuation	Very high reflectivity Shadowing
Lipid	Diffuse edges High reflectivity High attenuation	Low backscatter
Red thrombus	Medium reflectivity High attenuation	Medium-high reflectivity
White thrombus	Medium reflectivity Low attenuation	

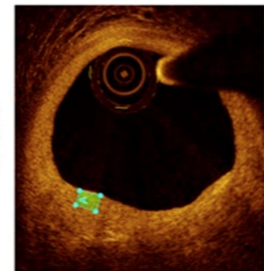
OCT, optical coherence tomography.



Lipid



Calcified



Fibrotic



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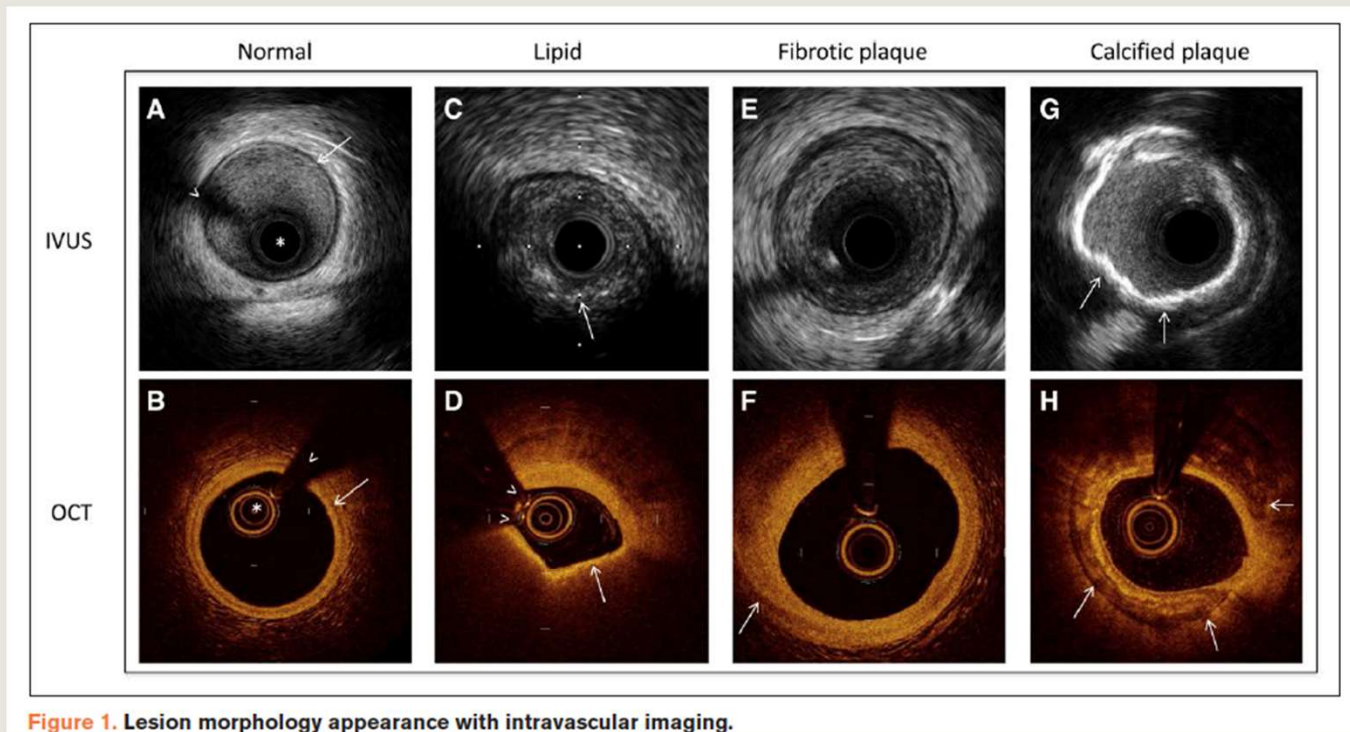


Figure 1. Lesion morphology appearance with intravascular imaging.



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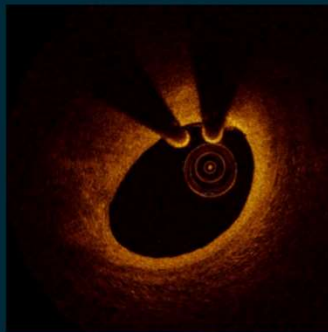
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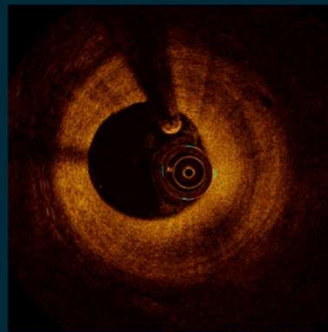
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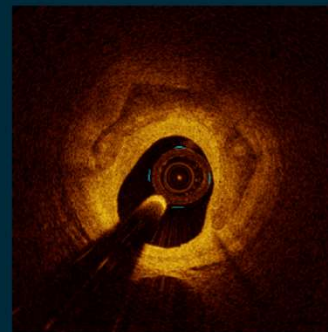
## Morphology Guided Lesion Preparation



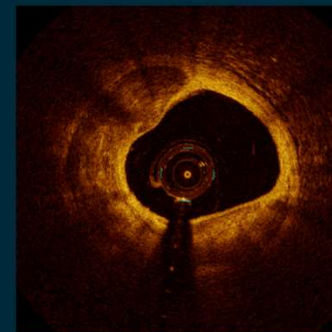
Lipidic



Fibrotic



Mild/Moderate Ca<sup>2+</sup>



Severe Ca<sup>2+</sup>

**DIRECT STENTING<sup>1</sup>**

**COMPLIANT BALLOON<sup>2</sup>**

**NON-COMPLIANT BALLOON<sup>3</sup>**

**ATHERECTOMY OR IVL<sup>4</sup>**



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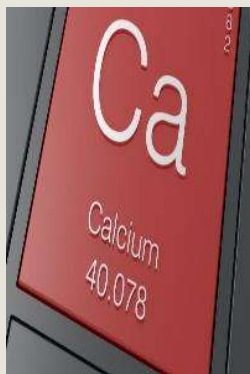
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# \*THE CALCIUM PROBLEM\*



**ABSENCE OF  
INTRAVASCULAR IMAGING**



**UNDERESTIMATION OF CALCIUM**



**INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF IMPROPER  
VESSEL PREP**



**STENT  
UNDEREXPANSION**

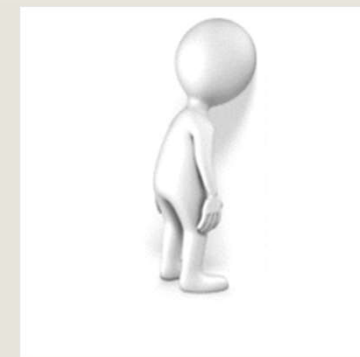
**MORE  
STENTS**

**INCREASE RISK OF  
COMPLICATIONS**

**LONGER  
PROCEDURES**



**STENT  
MALAPPOSITION**





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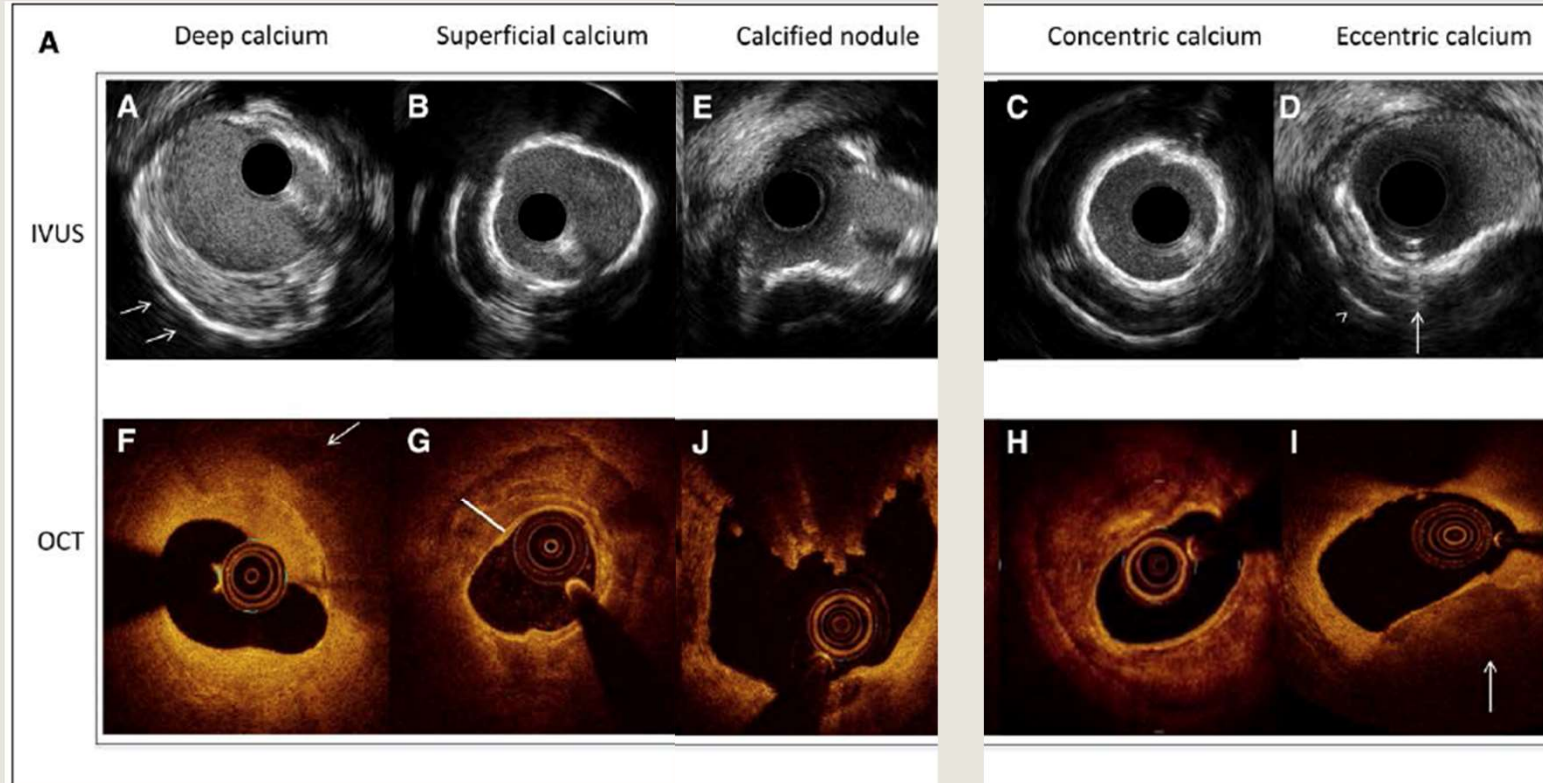


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# PRE-PCI detection of calcium

## DEFINE TYPE CALCIUM...





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# DEFINE TYPE CALCIUM...

## ROLE FOR CALCIUM MODIFICATION



**DEEP**



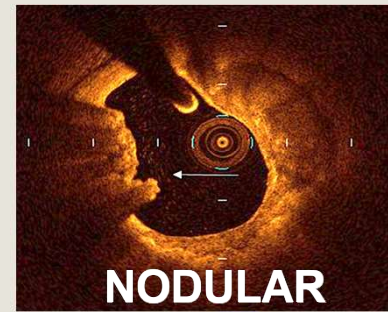
**NON- ROLE**  
NC/SCORING/CUTTING



**SUPERFICIAL**



**ROLE**  
ROTATIONAL/ORBITAL/  
LITHOTRIPSY/EXCIMER  
LASER



**NODULAR**



**TRADITIONAL  
ATHERECTOMY**  
ROTATIONAL/ORBITAL



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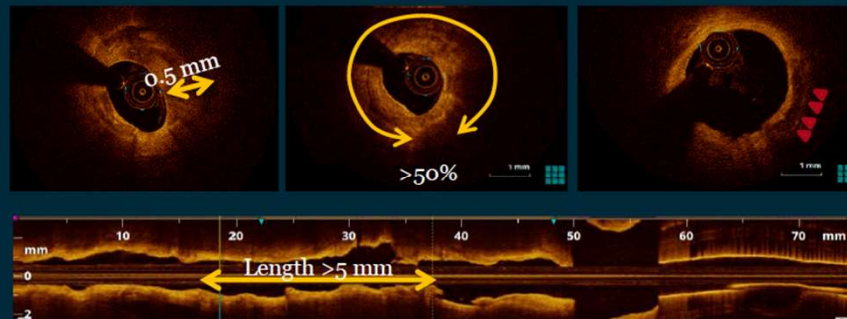
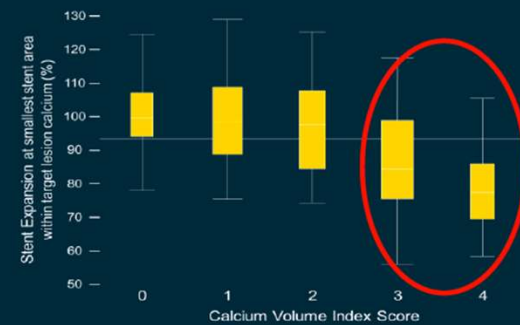
# Influence of Ca<sup>2+</sup> on Stent Expansion by OCT

OCT-Based Calcium Volume Index Score<sup>1</sup>

1. Maximum Calcium Angle (°)	≤ 90° ▶ 0 point
	90° < Angle ≤ 180° ▶ 1 point
	> 180° ▶ 2 points
2. Maximum Calcium Thickness (mm)	≤ 0.5 mm ▶ 0 point
	> 0.5 mm ▶ 1 point
3. Calcium Length (mm)	≤ 5.0 mm ▶ 0 point
	> 5.0 mm ▶ 1 point
<b>Total score</b>	<b>0 to 4 points</b>

## Rule of 5's

- 0.5 mm thickness
- 5.0 mm long
- 50% vessel arc



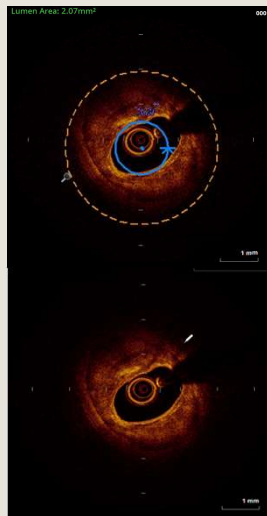
1. Fujino, A. et al. A new optical coherence tomography-based calcium scoring system to predict stent under expansion. *EuroIntervention*, April 2018; 13(18):e2182-e2189.

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Check the regulatory status of the device in areas where CE marking is not the regulation in force. ©2020 Abbott. All rights reserved. MAT-2002163 v2.0 Page 22 of 53



**TOTAL = 4 POINTS**



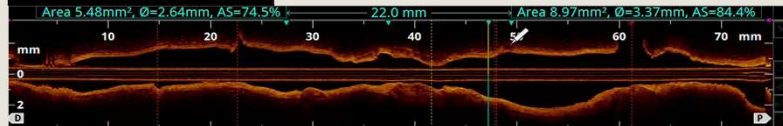
1. Maximum Calcium Angle (°)

360° ARC → 2 points

(>180° arc, >5mm long, >0.5mm thick)

2. Maximum Calcium Thickness (mm)

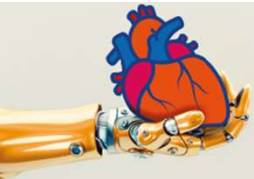
1.31mm → 1 point



3. Calcium Length (mm)

9.90mm → 1 point





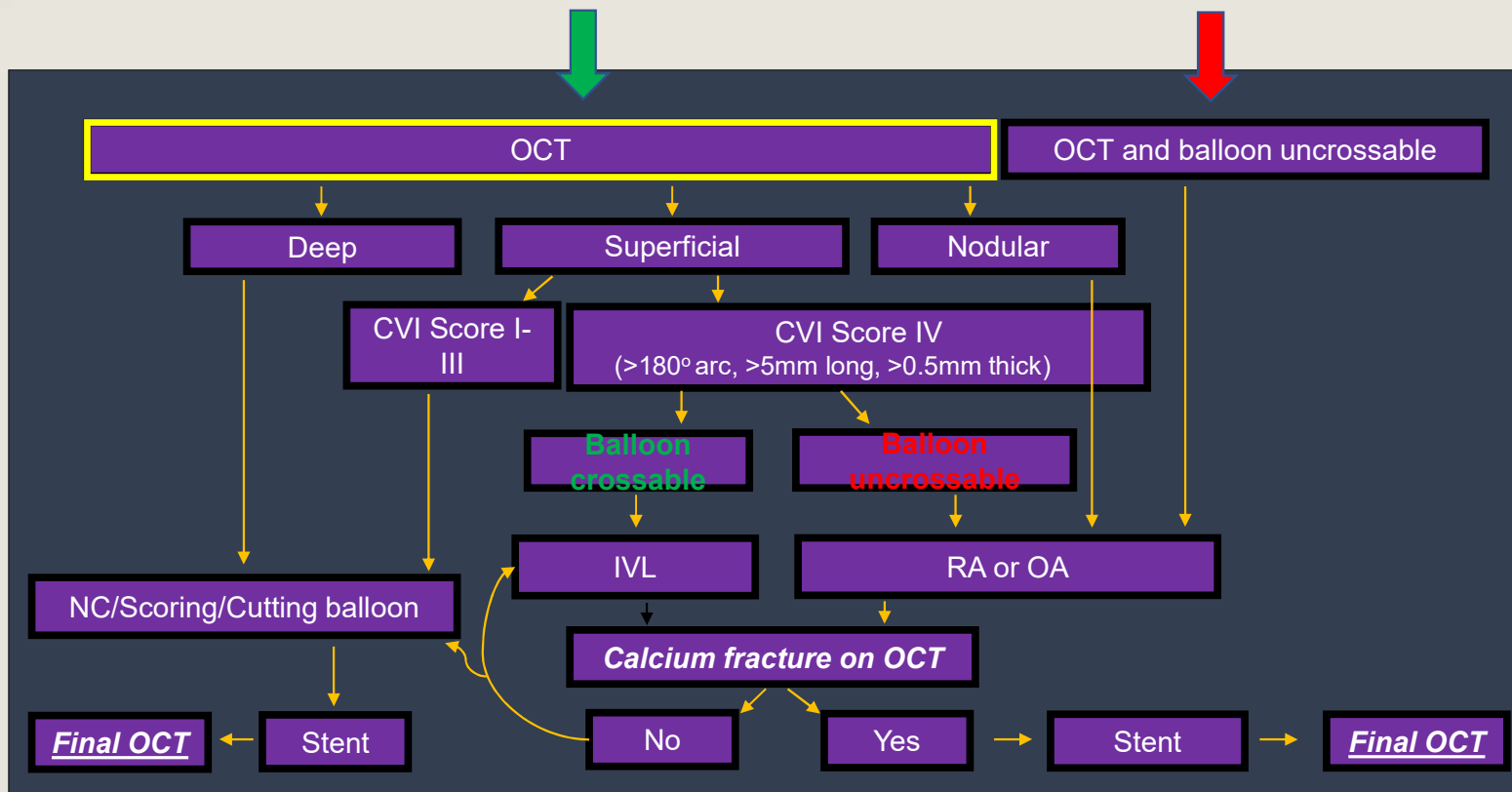
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# PRESCRIPTIVE ALGORITHM FOR TREATMENT OF CALCIFIED LESIONS

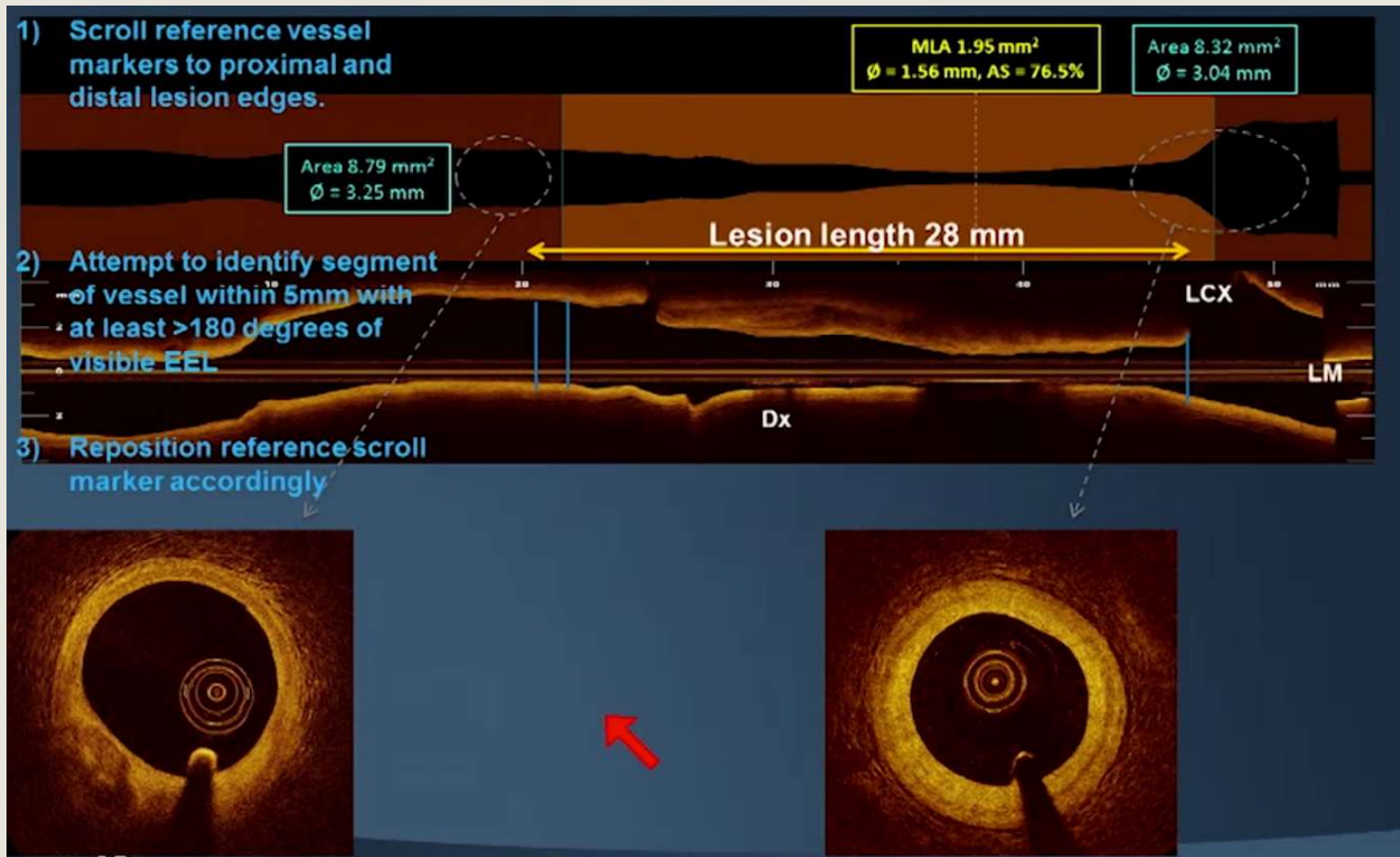


Shlofmitz et al. *Curr Cardiovasc Imaging Rep.* 2019



## 2. Identify Reference Segments (Prox & Dist)

**Choose Stent Length:** avoidance the landing zone within an area of residual plaque burden >50% and particularly lipid-rich plaque





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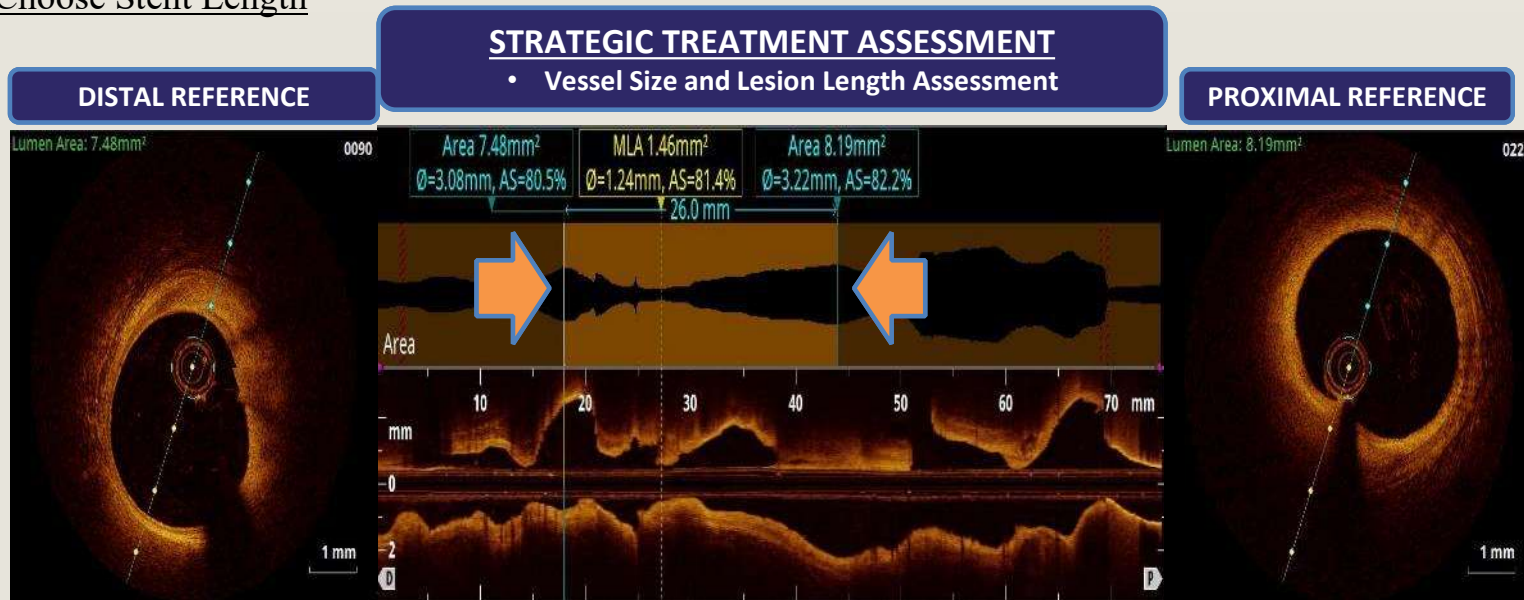
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## 2. Length

### Identify Reference Segments (Prox & Dist)

Choose Stent Length



AREA MEDIA 7.83 (PROX E DIST)



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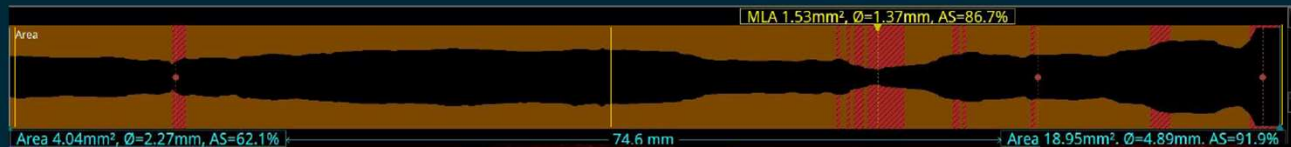


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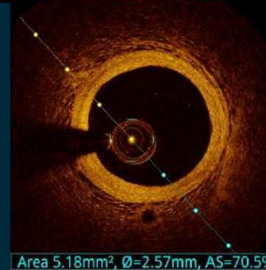
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## Identify Landing Zones

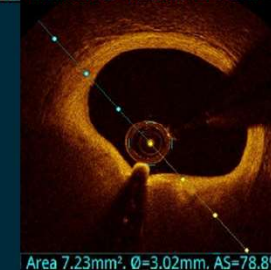
- 1) Scroll reference vessel markers to distal "normal" OCT lumenogram
- 2) Is this a safe place to land the distal stent edge?  
*The more visible the EEL the safer your landing zone*
- 3) Scroll reference vessel markers to proximal "normal" OCT lumenogram
- 4) Is this a safe place to land the proximal stent edge?  
*The more visible the EEL the safer your landing zone*



- 5) Adjust the length to an available DES size at the "more normal" reference



Lesion length 33 mm



Courtesy of Dr. Ziad A. Ali

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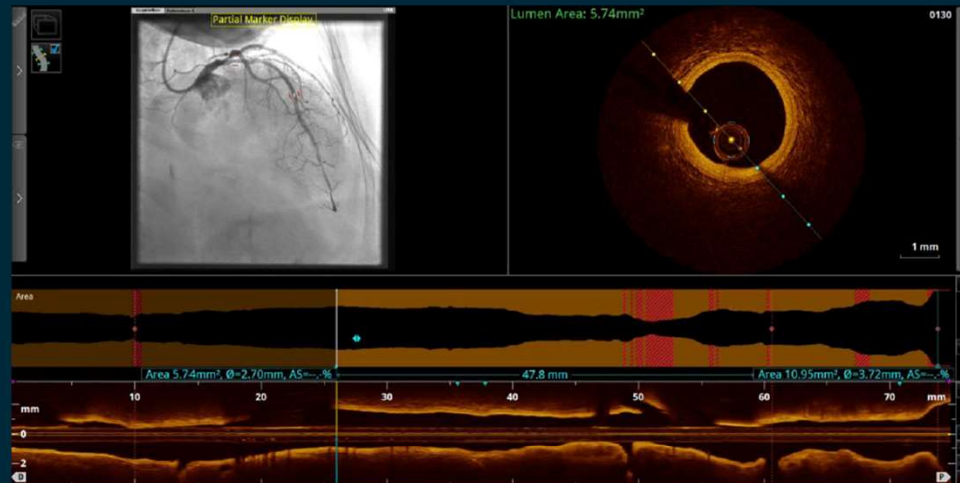
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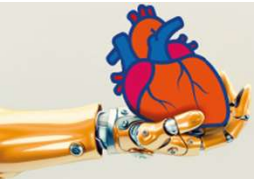
## OCT-Guided Length

### Identify:

- “Normal” reference segments
- Adjusted DES size



Case courtesy of Dr. Zaid Ali



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# LESION LENGTH ANALYSIS

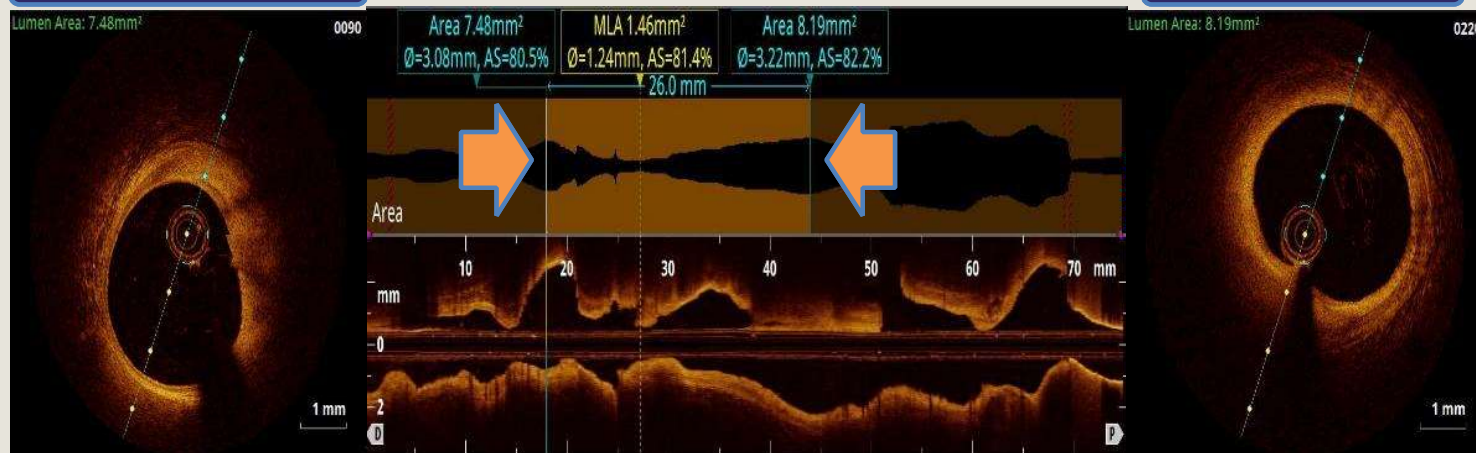
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## STRATEGIC TREATMENT ASSESSMENT

- Vessel Size and Lesion Length Assessment

DISTAL REFERENCE

PROXIMAL REFERENCE

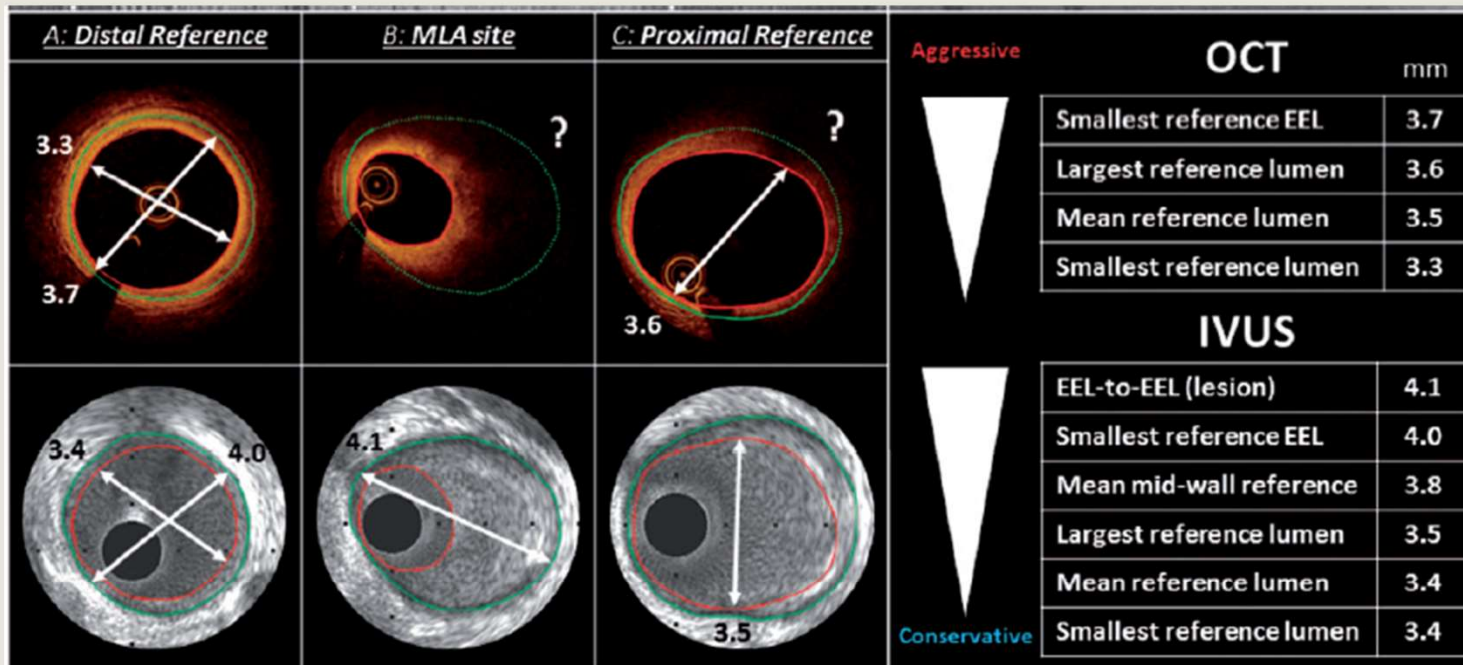


AREA MEDIA 7.83 (PROX E DIST)

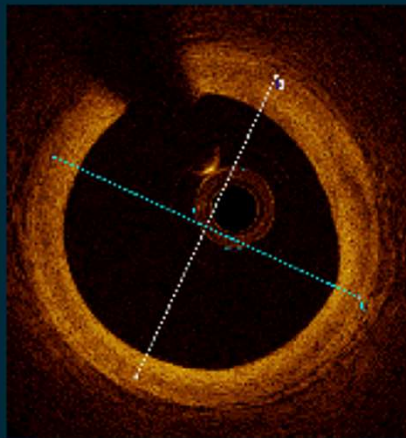


# 3. Diameter

## Choose Stent Size (vessel size assessment)



# OCT Stent Sizing Algorithm



PRE-PCI OCT



Can the EEL be identified at the distal reference segment to allow vessel diameter measurement?

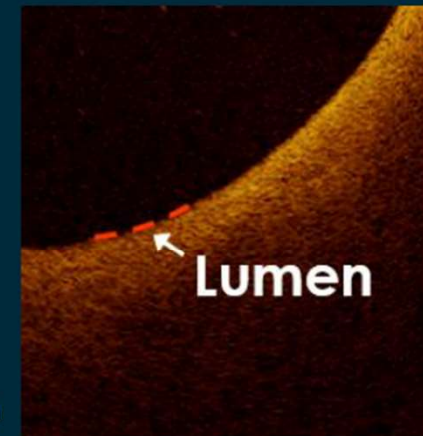
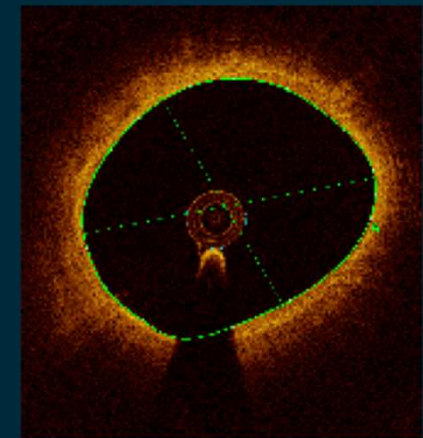
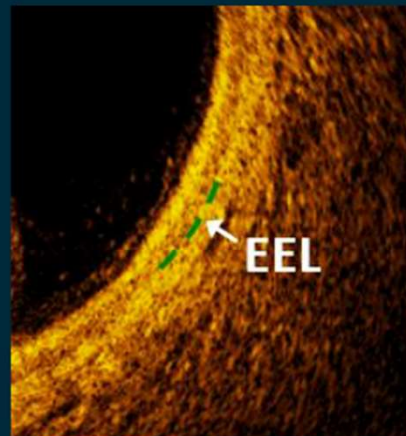
YES



Stent diameter decided by OCT measurement of mean EEL to EEL diameter rounded down to nearest stent size<sup>1</sup>

NO

Stent diameter decided by OCT measurement of mean lumen diameter rounded up to nearest stent size<sup>2</sup>



1. Ali, Z., et al., ILUMIEN III Study, Lancet Journal, 2016; 1-11. 2. Shlofmitz, E. et al. Algorithmic Approach for OCT Guided Stent Implantation During PCI. Intervent Cardiol Clin 7 (2018) 329-344.

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# 3. Choose Stent Size (vessel size assessment)

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## Lumen

MLD 3.0mm

MSA ( $\pi r^2$ ) = 7.07mm<sup>2</sup>

## Mid-wall

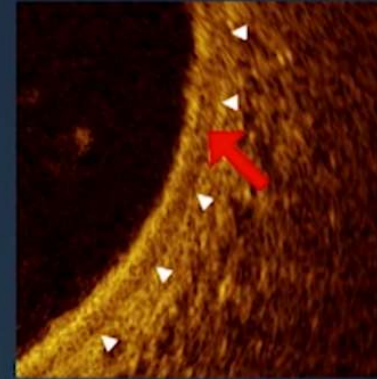
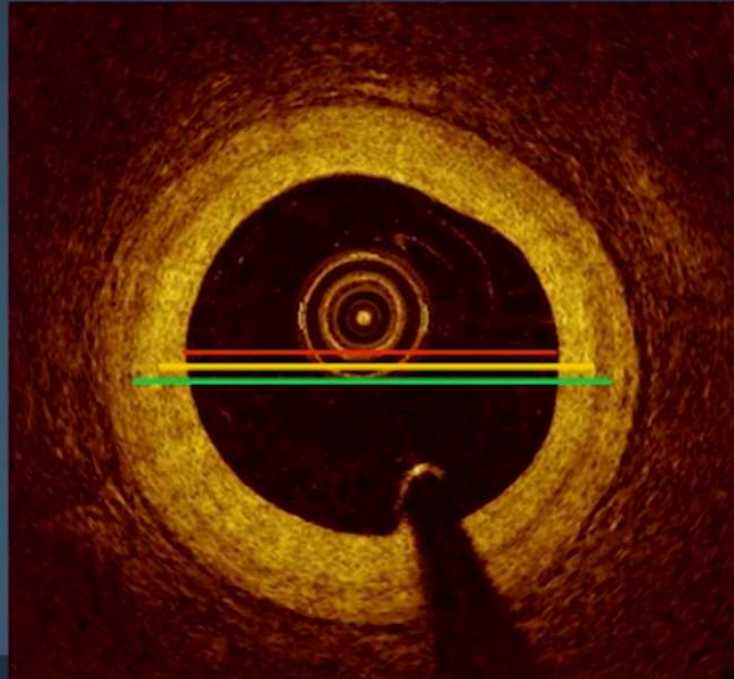
MWD 3.1mm

MSA ( $\pi r^2$ ) = 7.55mm<sup>2</sup>

## External Elastic Lamina

EELD 3.2mm

MSA ( $\pi r^2$ ) = 8.04mm<sup>2</sup>





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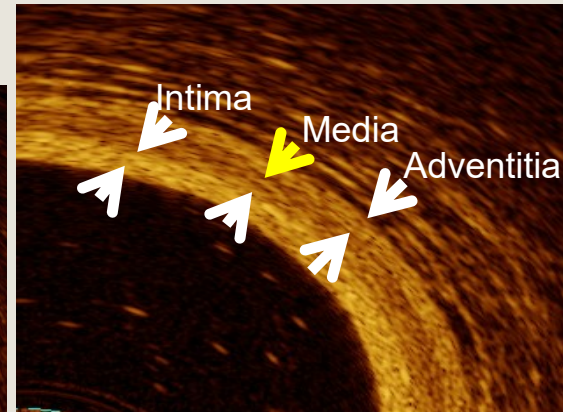
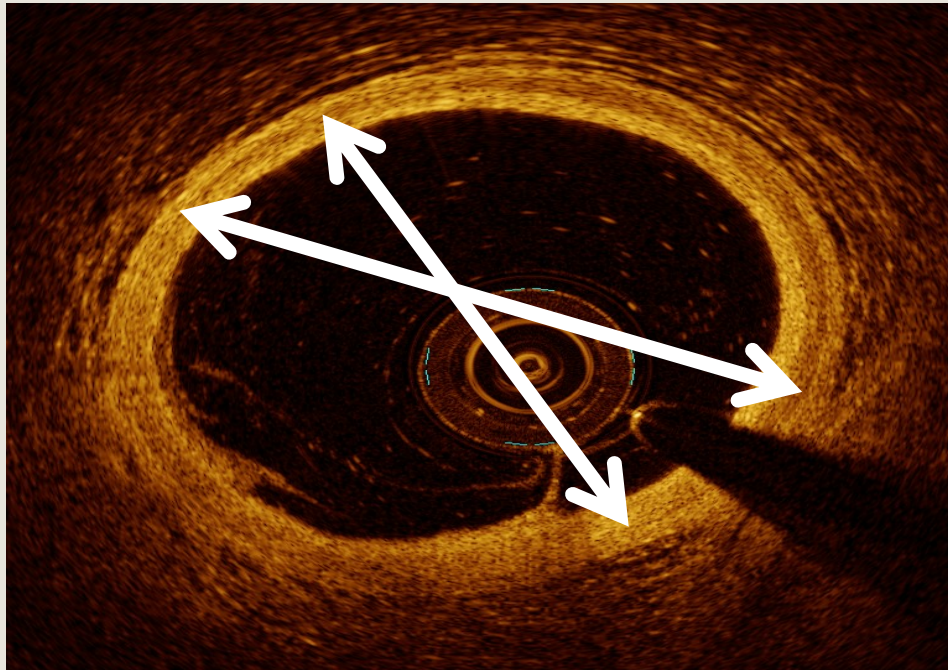
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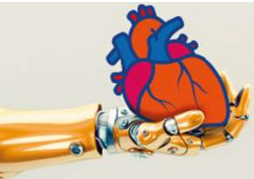


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EEL identified by yellow  
arrow



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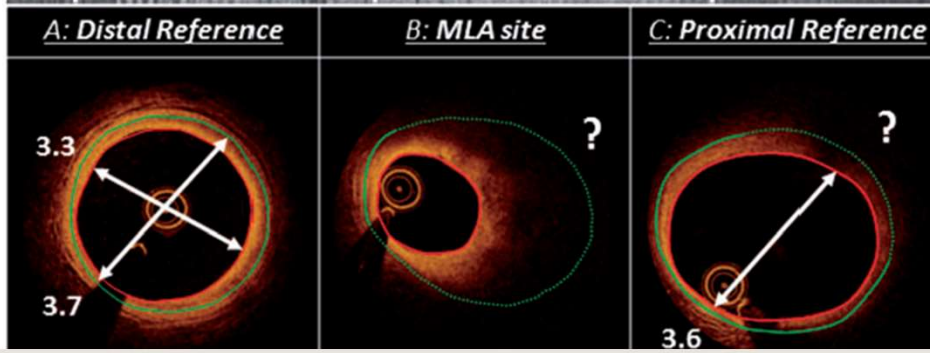
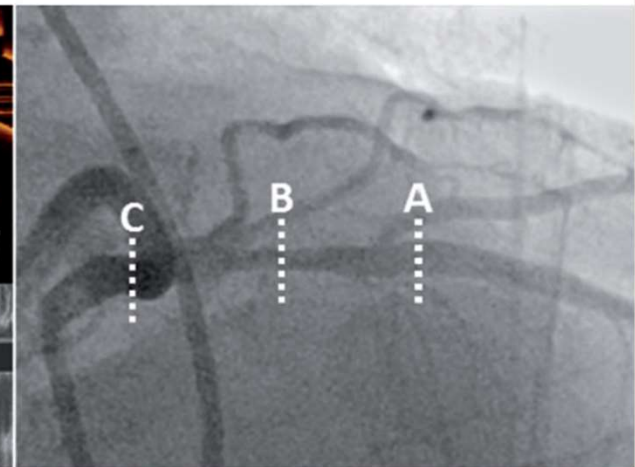
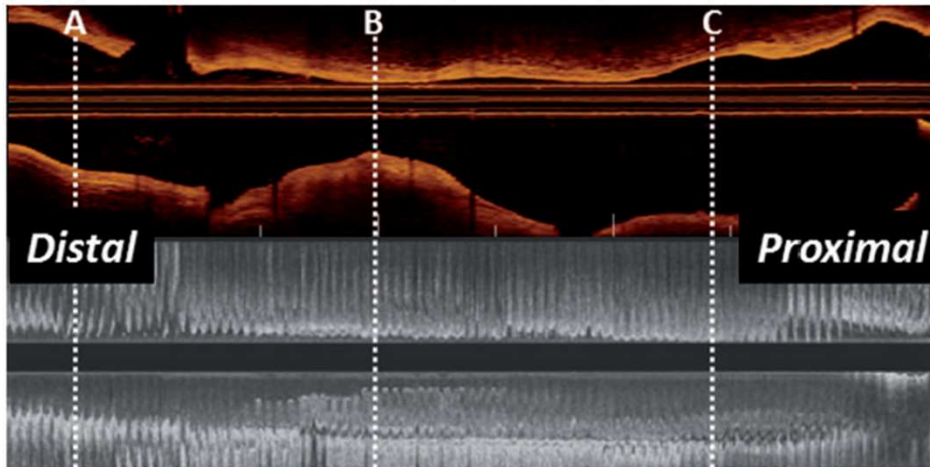
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**Aggressive**

**OCT**

	mm
Smallest reference EEL	3.7
Largest reference lumen	3.6
Mean reference lumen	3.5
Smallest reference lumen	3.3

**IVUS**



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- From a practical standpoint a *distal lumen reference (either EEM or lumen)* based sizing may represent a safe straightforward approach with subsequent optimization of the mid and proximal stent segment.
- 
- Specifically the *mean distal Lumen diameter* with up rounding stent 0,25 mm may be used or the *mean EEM* (2 orthogonal measurements) with down rounding to the nearest 0.25 mm stent sizing



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Post-PCI OCT | Optimize

MEDIAL DISSECTION

APPPOSITION

EXPANSION



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## SECTION 4

# Medial Dissection



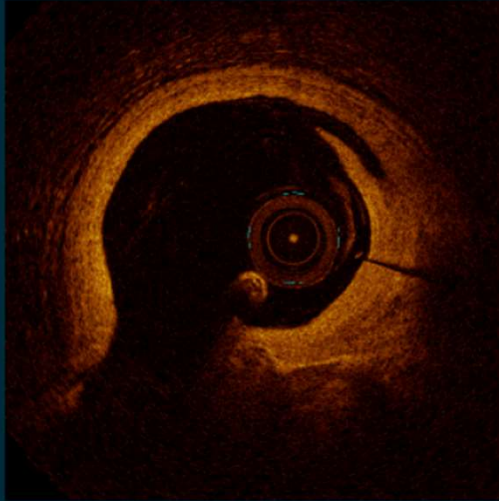
# Dissections

## Address Significant Dissection<sup>1</sup>

Dissection penetrates medial layer, and is greater than 1 quadrant arc

## Common Practice<sup>1,2</sup>

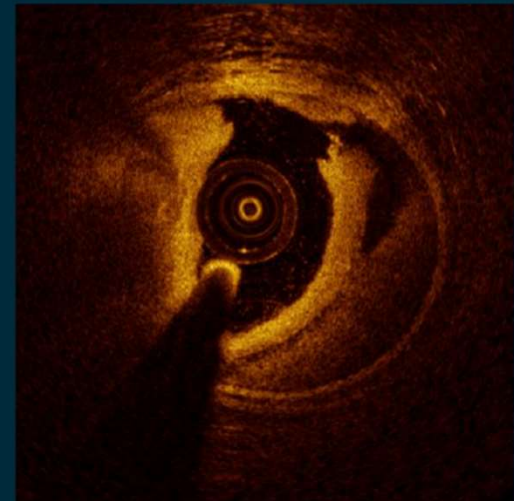
Place additional stent (particularly for distal dissections)



Intimal



Medial



Intramural Hematoma

**Edge Dissection:** no major edge dissection in the proximal or distal reference segments defined as a location that is 5 mm from the edge of the stent, extends to the medial layer with potential to provide flow disturbance (defined as  $\geq 60^\circ$  of the circumference of the vessel at site of dissection and/or  $\geq 3$ mm in length of the dissection flap)



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# Tissue Protrusion/Prolapse

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- Tissue Prolapse in the context of ACS is more likely to have consequences than in more stable clinical setting

## Edge Dissection

- Dissection  $> 200\mu$  lenght at the distal stent edge is an independent predictor of MACE





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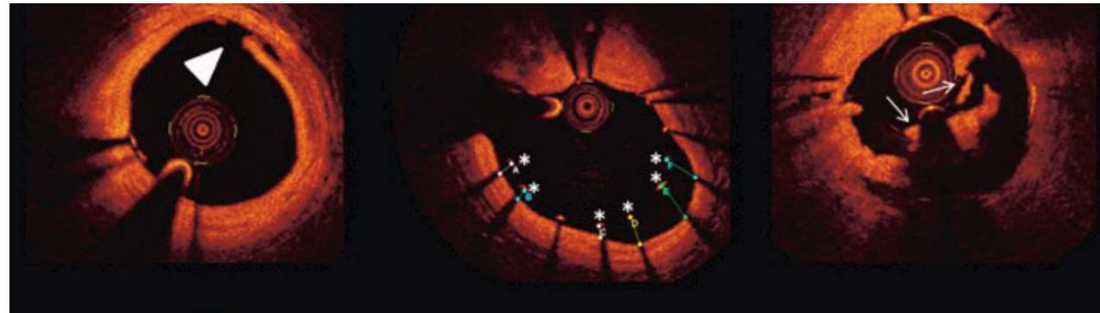
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**Edge Dissection**  
Width >200um  
Stent edge <5mm

**Mal-apposition**  
Stent-lumen >200um  
Luminal narrowing MLA<4mm<sup>2</sup>

**Thrombus**  
>200um



Additional Stent

Additional Post-dilatation



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**SECTION 5**

**Apposition**



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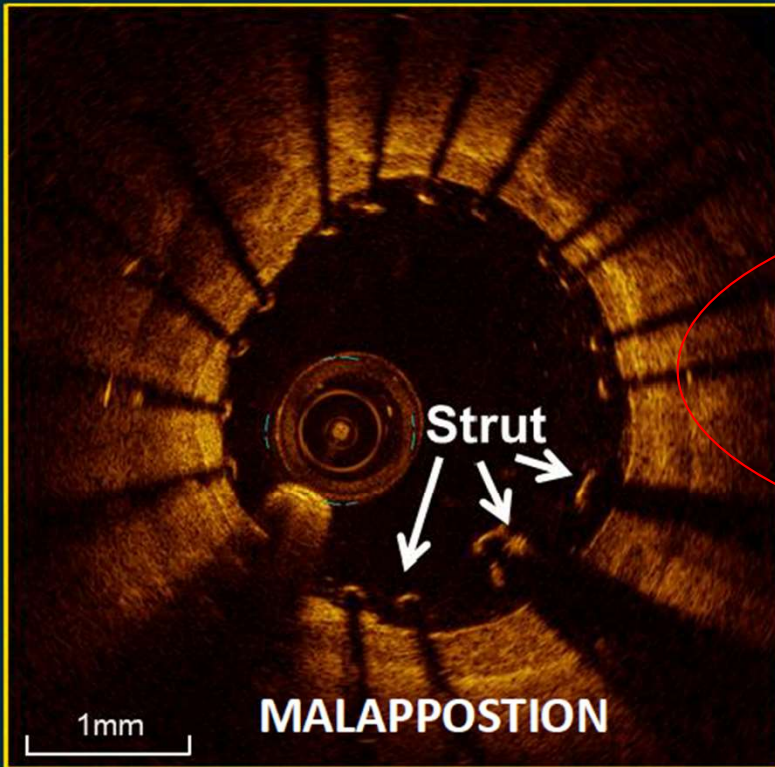
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# Apposition

If the stent struts are in contact with the artery wall, the stent is apposed



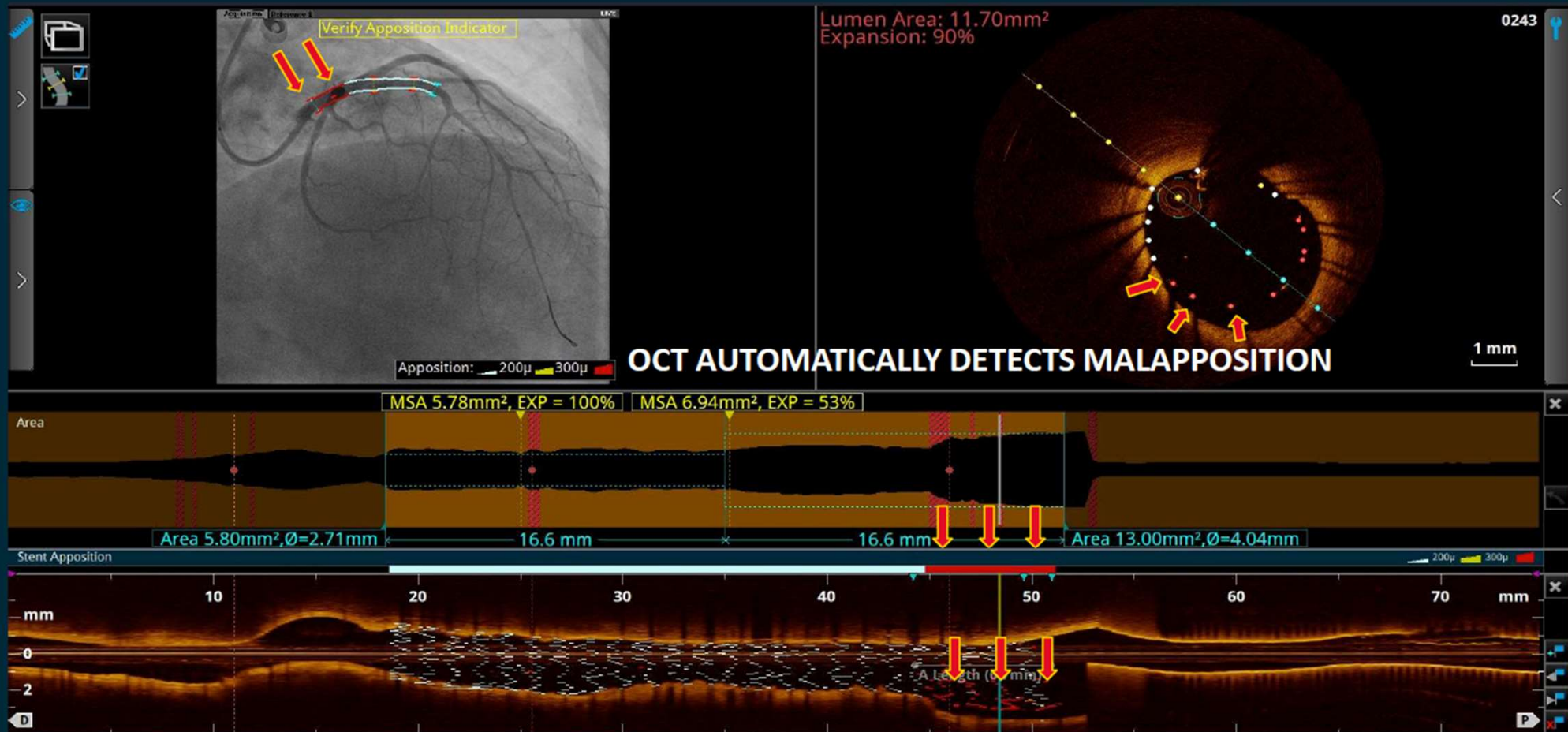
## Address Gross Malapposition

- Longer than 3 mm,<sup>1</sup> and  $\geq 0.3$  mm from wall<sup>2</sup>

## Common Practice<sup>3</sup>

- Dilate with semi-compliant balloon at low pressure

# Apposition Indicator





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## SECTION 6

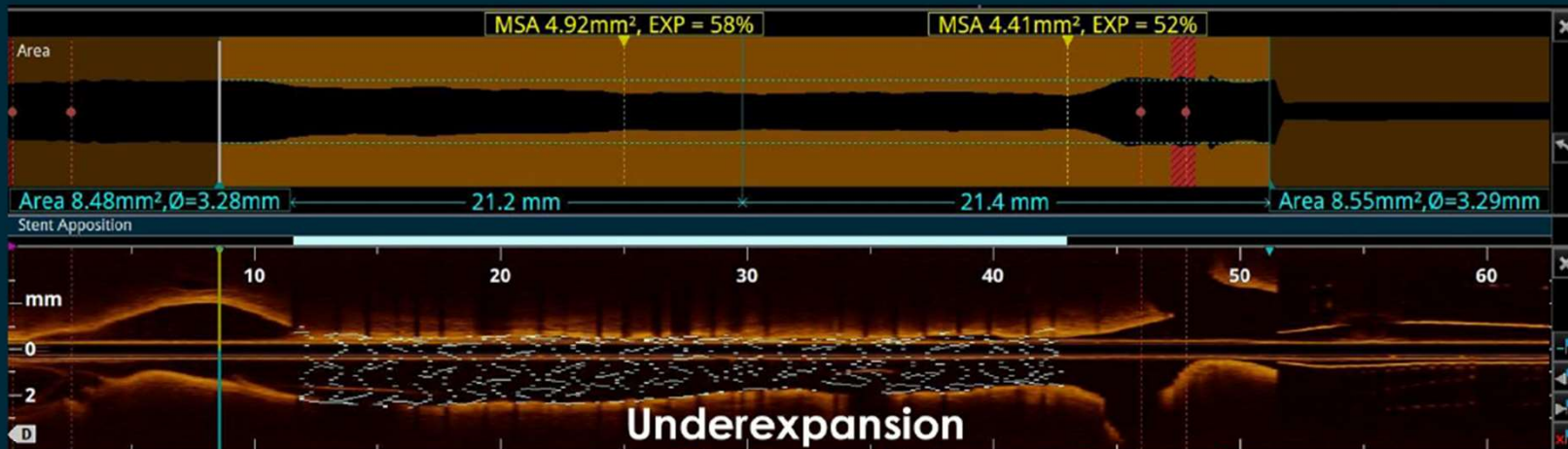
# eXpansion

Stent underexpansion is established as a major predictor of stent failure (restenosis/thrombosis)  
Stent expansion describes the minimum stent CSA either as an absolute measure (**absolute expansion**) or compared with the predefined reference area (**relative expansion**: prox-dist-average)



# eXpansion

If the stent is **expanding** the lumen, holding the lesion close to, or greater than, the normal reference segment, the stent is expanded.



## GOAL

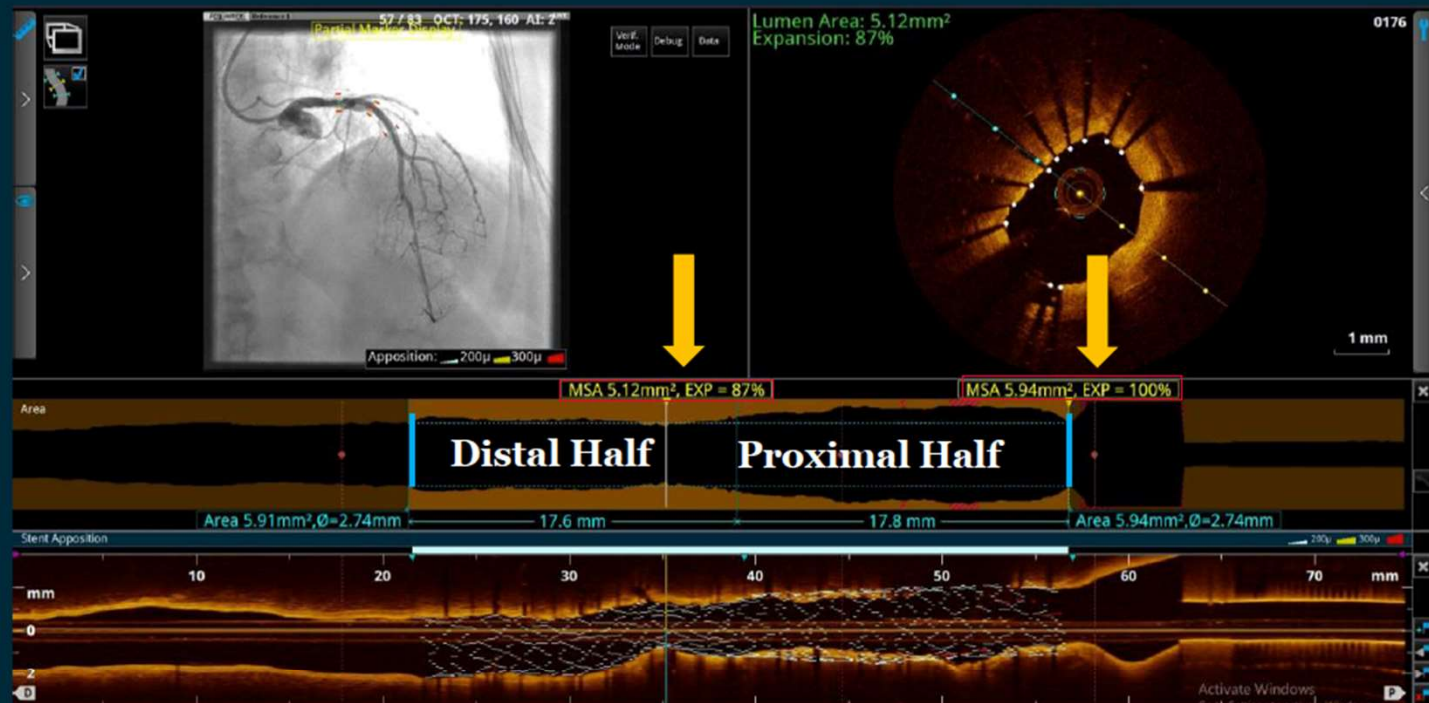
ACCEPTABLE =  $MSA \geq 80\%$  OF MEAN REFERENCE LUMEN AREA<sup>1</sup>

OPTIMAL =  $MSA \geq 90\%$  OF MEAN REFERENCE LUMEN AREA<sup>1</sup>

# Determine Expansion / MSA - Dual

## Fully automated expansion display

- ROI automatically detected
- Expansion automatically displayed

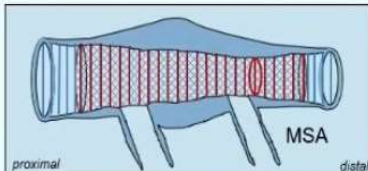


- Determine your proximal half MSA compared to your proximal reference
- Determine your distal half MSA compared to your distal reference

# Definitions of 10 stent expansion indexes

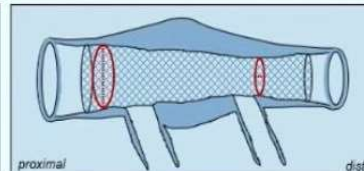
## MSA

Minimum stent area  
in the entire stent



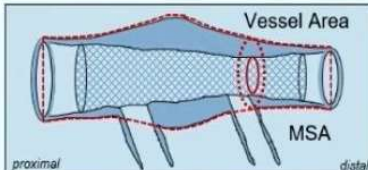
## Stent Asymmetry

Minimum Stent Diameter in the entire stent  
Maximum Stent Diameter in the entire stent



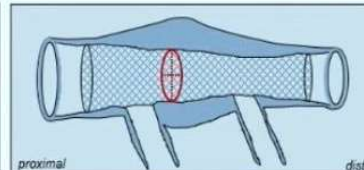
## MSA/Vessel Area Stent Exp

$$\frac{\text{MSA}}{\text{Vessel Area at MSA}} \times 100$$



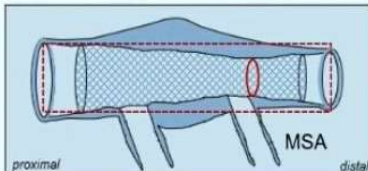
## Stent Eccentricity

Minimum of  $\frac{\text{Minimum Stent Diameter}}{\text{Maximum Stent Diameter}}$



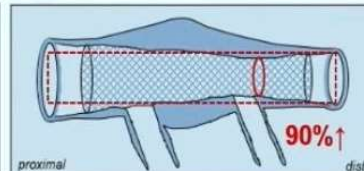
## Conventional Stent Exp

$$\frac{\text{MSA}}{\text{Average of Proxi and Dist RLA}} \times 100$$



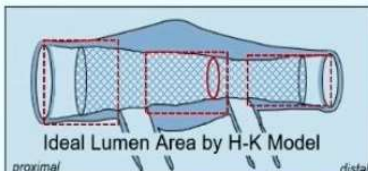
## IVUS-XPL Criteria

Minimum Lumen Area  
>90% of distal reference lumen area



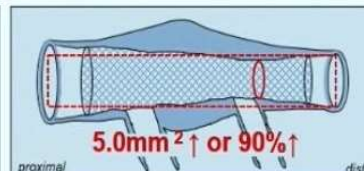
## Minimum Stent Exp by H-K Model

$$\text{Minimum of } \frac{\text{Stent Area}}{\text{Ideal Lumen Area}} \times 100$$



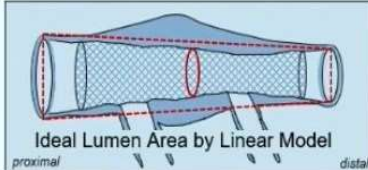
## ULTIMATE Criteria

minimum lumen area  
>5.0mm<sup>2</sup> or  
>90% of distal reference lumen area



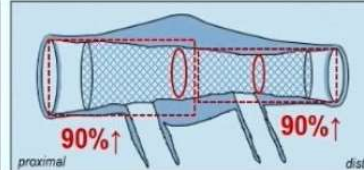
## Minimum Stent Exp by Linear Model

$$\text{Minimum of } \frac{\text{Stent Area}}{\text{Ideal Lumen Area}} \times 100$$



## ILUMIEN IV Criteria

$\frac{\text{Proximal MSA}}{\text{Proximal Reference Lumen Area}} \times 100$  (≥90%)  
And  
 $\frac{\text{Distal MSA}}{\text{Distal Reference Lumen Area}} \times 100$  (≥90%)

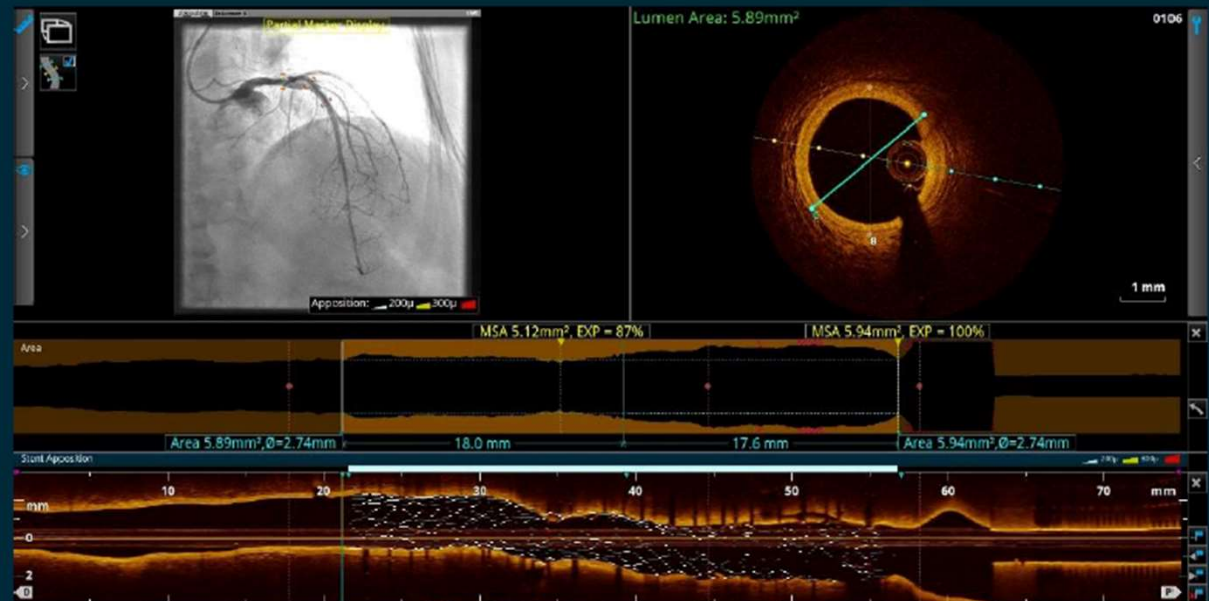
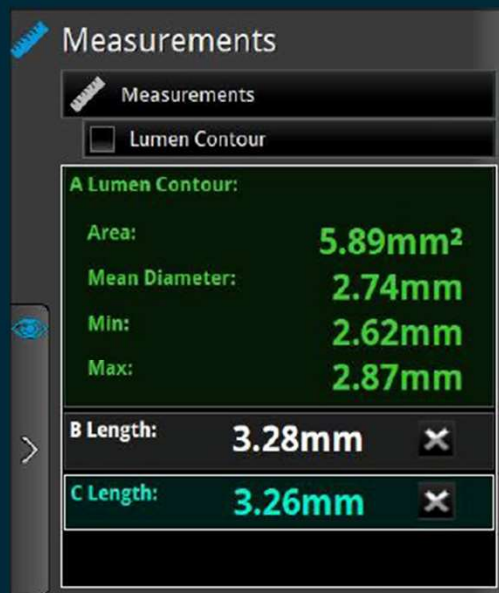




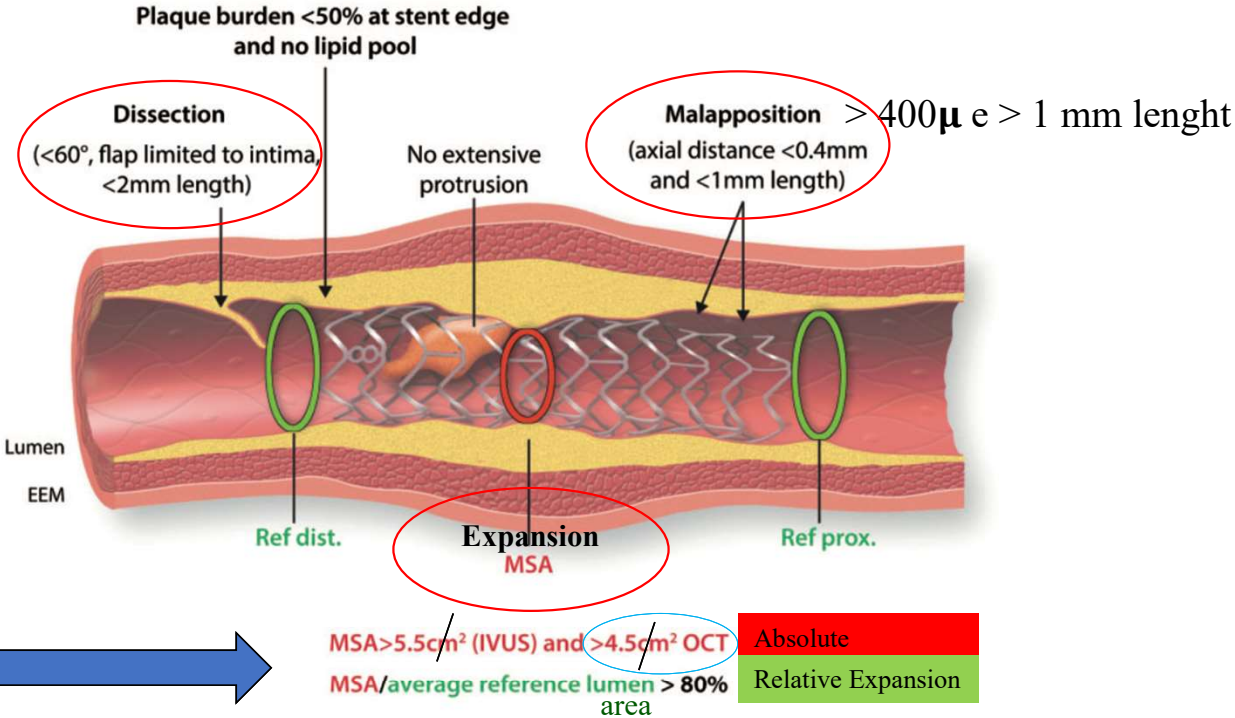
# OCT Guided Optimization of Underexpansion

The post-PCI OCT is used to choose the balloon size for post-dilation in the segment of stent with underexpansion

Mean EEL = 3.27, therefore a 3.25 mm balloon should be used for post-dilation



# Post-Procedural Assessment and Complication



**Take home figure** Summary of post-percutaneous coronary intervention optimization targets. The most relevant targets to be achieved following stent implantation in non-LM lesions are shown. These include optimal stent expansion (absolute as well as relative to reference lumen diameter); avoidance of landing zone in plaque burden >50% or lipid rich tissue; avoidance of large malapposition regions, irregular tissue protrusion, and dissections. Thresholds provided reflect the consensus of this group. Some are based on consistent and robust prospective data (e.g. stent expansion, landing zone) and others are less established (e.g. malapposition).



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## Conclusion

- The interventional community is moving towards comprehensive approaches in PCI, integrating anatomical information with imaging and function
- Integration of routine IVI for PCI has the potential to improve procedural safety and clinical outcomes.

No excuse for not using !